

ISU Extension-Calhoun County
521 4th Street
P.O. Box 233
Rockwell City, Iowa 50579
712-297-8611

December 2008

Dear Calhoun County:

Thank you to the Manson Craters 4-H club members and leaders for being our hosts on Sunday, November 2nd in Manson for Roun-Da-Vu. Congratulations to all the 4-H youth that received recognition that day. Keep up the great work!

The Calhoun County 4-H/FFA beef weigh-in is discussed in more detail later in this newsletter. Please note the location is again the Calhoun County Expo Fairgrounds in Rockwell City beginning at **7:30 a.m.** on Saturday, January 3rd. The snow date is the following Saturday, January 10th. This is an earlier start time in the morning than normal because of the sharing of the retinal imaging machine with Sac County that day.

Other dates for your calendars include:

Swine Weigh-in – Saturday, March 14th from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Sheep Weigh-in – Saturday, April 25th from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Calhoun County Expo – Wednesday, July 8th to Sunday, July 12th.

Using the weigh-in dates above and the anticipated weigh-in dates at the 2009 Calhoun Expo, the days on feed for the three species of livestock should be 186 days for beef, 109 days for swine, and 74 days for sheep. Please use these days on feed when planning your purchase of Expo animals.

Since we are discussing livestock, please look for additional details in this newsletter on the Food Safety and Quality Assurance Program, premise ID information, and Country of Origin Labeling (COOL). Please ask questions about these topics if you need clarification.

Though it is only December, it is a good time for graduating seniors to begin organizing and completing college scholarship applications. There are numerous scholarships through the 4-H organization and ISU, including the 2009 Christina Hixson Opportunity Award. The Hixson Opportunity Award is a \$10,000 scholarship (distributed \$2,500 per year) offered annually to one student from each of Iowa's 99 counties that will be attending ISU. Contact our office for additional information.

Sincerely,

Jerry W. Chizek
ISU - Calhoun County Extension Education Director

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4-H News

December 2008

Roun-Da-Vu

Approximately 120 people attended the Calhoun County annual award ceremony, Roun-Da-Vu, that was held Sunday, November 2nd at the Manson Northwest Webster High School. I want to thank the Manson Craters 4-H for being our host. They did an excellent job with decorations and the treats were wonderful!

Congratulations to all who applied for and received awards.

Enrollment Forms and Fees

If you still have not turned in your enrollment form, health form and 4-H fee, please take the time to do it now. If you have misplaced your form and need another, contact the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611 and we will get you another.

This is the last 4-H newsletter you will receive if you do not get your forms turned in.

Holiday Cards for the 4-H Foundation

Thank you to Calhoun Count Hot Shot, Manson Craters and North Butler Blazers 4-H clubs who made holiday cards for the 4-H Foundation. These cards will be sent out by the 4-H Foundation to the many individuals and organizations that support Iowa 4-H.

Christmas Candy Workshop

On Sunday, November 30th, there will be a Christmas Candy Workshop at the St. Francis Catholic Church in Rockwell City from 2:00- 5:30 p.m. The cost will be \$5 and each participant will need to bring a container to take samples home. Space is limited to the first 16 registered and there still is space left. To register, call the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611 by Wednesday, November 26th. The \$5 fee will be collected at the workshop.

2009 Pioneer Grant Information and Applications Now Available!

Is your club looking for "seed money" to do a community service project? Why not apply for a Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. grant? This grant offers support to 4-H clubs for local community improvement projects. The purpose is to provide start up money that clubs can use to begin their projects. Grants may vary from \$25 to \$150.

The brochure, information, and application are on the web at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/PioneerGrants.htm> Applications and support letters for 2009 grants are due in the county office on December 1, 2008.

Get motivated and make a difference in your community with help from a Pioneer grant.

Scholarship Information

4-H scholarship information is being sent out to all graduating 4-H members. The information will also be available on the web in PDF and Word format so you can download the application and type directly on it. Please call the ISU Extension office at 712-297-8611 if you have questions.

Northwest Area Recognition

There are several opportunities available for Senior 4-H members including project awards, becoming a member of the State 4-H Council and/or the State Tech Team, and attending National Congress and National Conference.

If you are interested in taking advantage of any of these opportunities, more information can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm>

Applications for Northwest Area Recognition will be due to the ISU Extension- Calhoun County Office by Feb. 9, 2009. Taped interviews will be scheduled Feb.12- 20, 2009. 4-H members will need to bring one VHS tape per award they are applying for.

Beef Weigh-In

Beef weigh-in is just around the corner. Weigh-in is scheduled for Saturday, January 3, 2009. 4-H and FFA members with a last name that begins with the letters M-Z will weigh-in their animals from 7:30-9:00 a.m. and those with a last name that begins with the letters A-L will weigh-in their animals from 9:00-10:30 a.m.

Winter in Iowa can be unpredictable. If the weigh-in needs to be canceled due to the weather, a decision will be made by 6:00 a.m. on January 3rd. The snow date is set for Saturday, January 10, 2009 at the same times. Listen to radio station KTLB 105.9 for announcements.

The cost for an ear tag is \$1.50 per animal for those animals being weighed-in for the Calhoun County Expo. To nominate an animal for the Iowa State Fair the cost is \$5.00 per animal. Retinal imaging will be done on those animals. To nominate an animal for Ak-Sar-Ben this year, the cost is \$5 per animal and DNA samples will be collect along with nose prints.

Purebred steers for State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben must have a legible tattoo in their ear (preferably in the left ear). The breed, tattoo, and sire name or registration number must be recorded on the verification form. This information should be brought with you to the weigh-in.

If you have questions or concerns, please call the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611.

COOL and Premise ID's

It is important for all livestock exhibitors to be aware of the current regulations for COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) and Premise ID numbers. Information can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/index.htm> or by calling the ISU Extension office.

As far as the 2009 Calhoun County Expo, exhibitors need to get signed affidavits from the person they purchase their livestock from. An example of this document can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/documents/cool.pdf>. Exhibitors need to keep the affidavits for a minimum of two years. When exhibitors bring livestock to the Expo, they will be required to fill out Animal Care & Management Disclosure statement for the animals they bring. This statement will be kept on file at the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office for a minimum of two years. A Care & Management Disclosure form for Market Beef is included in this newsletter.

Although Premise ID numbers will not be mandatory at the 2009 Calhoun County Expo, it is recommended that exhibitors get one. The application form is included in this newsletter and it may take several weeks or months to get one. The Sac County Fair and the Clay County Fair are requiring premise ID numbers.

If you have any questions about COOL or Premise ID requirements please call the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611.

Food Safety Quality Assurance

4-H and FFA members wishing to exhibit beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goats, meat goats, rabbits and/or poultry at the Calhoun County Expo, Iowa State Fair, Clay County Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben MUST have a current FSQA certificate. Training and testing is scheduled for Saturday, January 24th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. FSQA training qualifications are by age not grade.

All youth who plan to exhibit any of the above mentioned animals and are 9-11 years old by January 1, 2009, will need to attend the two-hour FSQA training. Youth 9-11 must attend this training each year.

All youth who plan to exhibit any of the above mentioned animals and are 12-14 years old by January 1, 2009, will have the option of attending the two-hour training or testing out. If you choose to test out, you will not have to attend training or test out again until you are 15 years of age.

All youth who plan to exhibit any of the above mentioned animals and are 15-18 years old by January 1, 2009, will have the option of attending the two-hour training or testing out. If you chose to test out you will not have to attend training or test out again until you are 19 years of age.

If you turn 19 before January 1, 2009, you will need to get certified through a training program.

Please call and register for training or to test out by Friday, January 23rd so that materials can be prepared. If you have questions on your certification status, please call Jill Mims at the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office at 712-297-8611.

Dog Project

If you are interested in joining other 4-H members in a dog project club, please contact the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office by December 31st. The focus of this group will be on training dogs for dog obedience and agility.

4-Hers in Action Photos

Thank you to Megan Collison, Ben Hecht, Jenna Remsburg and Anna Westcott who submitted photo's 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-Her's 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!

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 Brochures are available at the ISU Extension- Calhoun County office.

Growing Green at the State Volunteer's Retreat February 6-7, 2009

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

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.

Think about attending this retreat. It's a great opportunity to pick up ideas to grow your 4-H club. Registration materials will be coming soon.

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.4hmilliontrees.org/>

Club Officers' Duties

As new officers are being selected, now it a good time to share some general guidelines for officers in their individual offices.

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.

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.

Club leaders or officers who have questions about their positions may contact the ISU Extension-Calhoun County office for more information.

Pen Pals with 4-H Club in Japan

A 4-H club at Camp Zama, Japan, is interested in finding other 4-H'ers 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 Discount Events

The Iowa 4-H Foundation website (www.iowa4hfoundation.org) has 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.

Dates To Remember

November 27th and 28th - ISU Extension- Calhoun County office closed for Thanksgiving

November 30th - Christmas Candy Workshop

December 1st - Pioneer Grant applications due to ISU Extension office

December 25th and 26th - ISU Extension- Calhoun County office closed for Christmas

January 1st - ISU Extension- Calhoun County office closed for New Year's Day

January 2nd - County Council sledding at Hyde Park

January 3rd - Market Beef Weigh-In

January 10th - Snow date for Market Beef Weigh-In

February 6th through 7th - State Volunteer's Retreat in Ankeny

February 9th - Northwest Area Award applications due to ISU Extension- Calhoun County office

March 14th - Market Swine Weigh-In

April 25th - Market Sheep Weigh-in

July 8th through July 12th - the Calhoun County Expo

