

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

Benton County 4-H Family Connection

February 2009

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*"4-H is a community of young people across America
who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills."*

Legislative Day 2009 – Thursday March 12, 2009

Title: 5 County Legislative Trip (Benton, Iowa, Poweshiek, Marshall, & Tama counties)

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2009

Grades: 7th and 8th Graders **Cost** \$20 each person

Activity: Bus trip to Des Moines, Tour of Judicial Bldg, State Capital and Dome, lunch with Representatives and a visit to Iowa's Hall of Pride in the Hy-Vee Hall ** Please watch your mailbox as further information has been mailed directly to each Benton County 4-H member in 7 & 8 grades.**

4-H Volleyball Tourney

The 2009 Volleyball Tournament has been set for March 15 at the Washington Middle School in Vinton. Information will be sent out to leaders at the end of January. There are 3 brackets for members to play on – Junior, Intermediate and Senior. Contact your leader if you are interested in playing on a team. Club team sign ups are due to the Extension Office by **February 27** in order to give county council members time to set up the game brackets, make posters and send out cards to club leaders for their team starting time(s).

State Fair Swine Weigh-In and Identification

The dates for the 2009 Iowa State Fair weigh-ins are Saturday, April 25th – Saturday, May 2nd. The regional site dates and locations are now posted as well. **Reminder:** Every 4-H'er is required to fill out an Intent to Participate form and submit that to the State 4-H Office by March 20th. **YOU** are responsible to mail or fax the Intent Form in to the State Office. Each past State Fair exhibitor has been mailed the State Fair Update letter. **The BENTON location is set for April 27 at Titan Machinery in Blairstown from 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

What's inside...?

Calendar

Weigh-In Dates for
2008-09 4-H Year

Legislative Day
2009

4-H Volleyball
Tournament

4-H'ers to
Participate in Beef
Blast!

FSQA Training
Dates

4-H License Plates

Team Nutrition
Iowa Mini Grant

Showmaster Boot
Camp 2009

Highway to
Horticulture

Block & Bridle
Dog Show

4-H'ers wanted for 2009 Beef Blast!

4-H'ers in grades 9 through 12 and enrolled in the beef project are encouraged to join the 4-H Beef Blast! The Beef Blast is a fun, learning experience to ISU, to learn more about their 4-H beef project and beef production. Participants will learn about beef nutrition, building feed rations, ruminant anatomy, and how the rumen works. They will also enjoy some fun on the ISU campus. The activities will be held in Kildee Hall, home of the animal science program at ISU, with a quick tour of the Memorial Union. Lunch will be with ISU Animal Science faculty and the Block & Bridle (animal science club) club officers and members. Any interested 4-H'ers should contact their county Extension office for registration and trip details.

Registrations will be due March 1, and the registration fee is \$30.

Benton FSQA Training Dates

ALL swine exhibitors and ALL state fair exhibitors are **REQUIRED** to have FSQA training in order to exhibit. Contact Michelle or Linda at the Extension Office with any questions.

Thursday, April 9 @ 10 am – 12 pm (no school day for V-S schools)

Thursday, May 21 @ 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Listed below are classes available in nearby counties:

Johnson County - (319) 337-2145

FSQA training will be held in conjunction with *Showmaster* Boot Camp 2009, **March 14**, Johnson County Fairgrounds in **Iowa City**. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The day will be broken into specie segments starting with cattle. The experts will be covering daily care and management, clipping, fitting, feeding and showmanship. Lunch will be provided with great door prizes. If you would like more information or would like to reserve your registration, please call Kim Lewis at 319-430-0474 by March 5.

Linn County - (319) 377-9839 *RSVP required! *

February 24, 6:30 pm Linn County Extension Office

March 31, 6:30 pm Linn County Extension Office

May 7, 6:30 pm Tippie Beef Center Kirkwood

Iowa County - (319) 642-5504 *RSVP required! *

March 30, 6:30 p.m. at the Iowa County Extension Office

May 5, 6:30 p.m. at the Iowa County Extension Office

Jones County - (319) 462-2791 *RSVP required!*

March 23 – County Extension Office, 605 East Main Street, Anamosa. 7 to 9 p.m.

April 23 - Jones County Extension Office, 605 East Main Street, Anamosa. 7 to 9 p.m.



Weigh-In Dates for 2008-09 4-H Year

Please mark the following important dates on your calendars. All weigh-ins will be at the fairgrounds unless otherwise noted. Times for FFA/4-H will be announced closer to the event. :

Derby Swine Weigh-In/Heifer Tagging --- **Saturday, March 28, 2009**, 8-10 a.m. derby swine & 10-11am heifer tagging.

Sheep Weigh-In --- **Saturday, May 9, 2009 * New Date! ***

- COUNTY FAIR ONLY sheep will weigh-in at 1 p.m.
- 4-H STATE FAIR sheep will weigh-in from 2 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- FFA STATE FAIR sheep will weigh-in at 4:30 p.m.

State Fair SWINE Weigh-In --- **Monday, April 27, 2009** @ Titan Machinery, Blainstown, 3:30-5p.m. Information has been mailed to past participants as well as an article in this newsletter and information has been mailed to NEW swine exhibitors.

4-H License Plate

Support Iowa 4-H with the 4-H license plate. This is a great gift for that special 4-H member, volunteer, leader or staff person! The Iowa 4-H Foundation has applied for an official 4-H license plate and to create this special designed plate, 500 pre-paid orders must be submitted within one year. Get your license plate today by filling out the application form online at www.iowa4hfoundation.org. License plates are \$35 for numbered plates and \$60 for personalized plates. Application and payment by check or money order are to be sent to: Iowa 4-H Foundation, 3630 Extension Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011-3630. For questions, contact Shelly Greving, shellyg@iastate.edu or (515) 294-1607.



Team Nutrition Iowa Mini Grant

Your Voice Counts!

Who: Teams of Iowa high school students and adult advisors (4 students per team)

What: “Youth in Action for a Healthy Iowa” symposiums

Why: Students will identify the problems and suggest solutions that make sense to them on how to support their healthy school environments.

When/Where: Cedar Rapids April 8th, 2009; Alta April 15th, 2009; Davenport April 22nd, 2009; Creston May 8th, 2009

Each location’s symposium will begin at 9:30am and end at 2:30pm. Deadline for registration is 2 weeks prior to the symposium date. ***Teams that attend will be eligible to apply for a \$500 mini-grant and mileage reimbursement.*** To register contact carrie.scheidel@iowa.gov For more information visit: www.iowa.gov/educate .

Showmaster Boot Camp 2009

Come learn with the experts at Showmaster Boot Camp 2009! This is a great educational opportunity for kids showing cattle, hogs and sheep. This event will be held on **March 14**, at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Iowa City. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The day will be broken into segments starting with cattle. The experts will be covering daily care and management, clipping, fitting, feeding and showmanship. This year we are working with Iowa State University offering FSQA certification. Lunch will be provided with great door prizes. If you would like more information or would like to reserve your registration, please call Kim Lewis at 319-430-0474 by March 5.

Highway to Horticulture!

Are you interested in horticulture or want to know more about it? This is the trip for you! Spend the day with Iowa State University Club and Facility/Staff on April 1, 2009. You will tour Reiman Gardens, Jack Trice Stadium, ISU Campus Greenhouse, the Horticulture Research Labs, ISU Station Farm, and watch/participate in pruning apple trees and grape vines. Registration fee is \$10. See the enclosed flyer to fill out the registration and return it to the Jones County Extension Office by March 9, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact the Jones County Extension Office at 319-462-2791.

Block & Bridle Dog Show

When: March 8, 2009

Where: Iowa State University's Farm Bureau Pavilion

When: Registration begins at Noon

Shows start at 2:00 p.m.

Registration Fee: \$10

Dogs must be current on vaccinations! Online only registration is located at:

www.ans.iastate.edu/clubs/bbclub/?pg=33

