

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

Benton County 4-H Family Connection

November/December 2008

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

Want to win a Pizza Party for your club? Read on!

Do you think your club is lots of fun and your friends would have a great time if they joined 4-H? What if there was an incentive of a pizza party for your entire 4-H club? Yes, it's true! The club with the most new members for this 4-H year (2008-09) will get a pizza party courtesy of the Extension Office. The more new members you recruit, the better your chances are to get an awesome pizza party. To make it even better, it will be delivered by Linda Fischer our Director or Michelle Thomsen. The deadline for this contest is January 2, 2009. Good luck!

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. :

Beef Weigh-In --- Monday, December 29, 2008, 1-2 pm County only, 2-5 p.m. State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben nominations

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!*** starting @ 1 p.m.

State Fair SWINE Weigh-In --- Monday, April 27, 2009 @ Titan Machinery, Blairstown, 3:30-5p.m.

What's inside...? Calendar

Want to win a Pizza
Party? Read on!

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

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Beef Weigh-In
Update – READ
CAREFULLY!!

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Council

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Club Treasurer's Workshop

Calling all 4-H Club treasurers! Want to start the 4-H year out right with the 4-H treasurer's book? Then plan to attend a workshop on **Tuesday, December 30 at 10:00 AM in the Extension Office**. This workshop, especially for you, will help you learn how to complete the treasurer's book, write checks and balance a check book. Bring your club treasurer's book and club check book. Linda Fischer, Benton CEED, will explain how to complete the books. We will also allow time for one-on-one assistance if needed. If the club's past treasurer did not turn in their book for judging at the end of the year, we would be happy to audit the book so you begin your year with a balanced book.

Beef weigh-in Update – READ CAREFULLY!!

Monday, December 29, 2008 is the date for this year's Beef Weigh-In at the Fairgrounds in Vinton. Weigh-in will start at **1 pm**. ****This is earlier than last year! ****

Times will be as follows: 1-2 p.m. County Fair **ONLY** cattle

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. State Fair/Ak-Sar-Ben cattle

REMINDERS:

- ALL market beef **MUST** be weighed and tagged at this weigh-in.
- There is no weight limit.
- If you have **ANY** market beef that you are even considering nominating for state fair, they **MUST** be at this weigh-in. There is no 2nd chance of nominating after weigh-in.
- County Fair **ONLY** cattle have no fees thanks to the generosity of the Fairboard. Please make sure to thank them.
- State Fair Cattle: \$5/head and **MUST** be paid in full at weigh-in.
- **ALL** information **MUST** be filled out & legible on the ID papers that you fill out after you weigh-in your cattle. Make sure to have your registration information (call the association for the registration number if you need to).
- *New for 2008* - - ALL commercial heifers will be tattooed.
- *New for 2008* - - Ak-Sar-Ben Cattle are \$5/head no matter if they are nominated for State Fair also. Example: Nominating market steer for state fair \$5 + Ak-Sar-Ben \$5= \$10 fee for that **ONE** steer. This is a big increase in fees for Ak-Sar-Ben nominations.



2009 State Fair Updates

There are numerous changes/updates/rule clarifications for the 2009 state fair. Please read carefully! As always, call Michelle at the Extension Office if you have any questions.

Beef



- New rule: No artificial tails allowed
- Existing Rule Clarifications – read carefully!
Fitting rules clarification (all species): Family member is defined as: parent, (mom, dad, step-parent-legal guardian), brother, sister, step-sibling.
No coaching rule clarification: No coaching will be allowed from or near the ring. This includes verbal and non-verbal coaching. Violators will be escorted from the barn/showing area for the duration of the show.
- No fresh tattoos allowed at state fair

Horse

- Walk/Trot class will be combined into one age group. Showmanship is the only other riding class the exhibitor will be allowed to enter.
- Substitutions are allowed for State Fair entries IF the replacement horse is listed on Horse ID form by May 15.
- The State Fair Board is looking at allowing 4-H horses to arrive on Monday afternoon/evening for State Fair instead of the day of the show due to the traffic problems with the other livestock areas that are on the fairgrounds.

Meat Goats

- Wethers and does will be allowed to show at the 2009 State Fair

Sheep

- Adjustments have been made to the Performance Lamb carcass formula
- Purebred registration papers: ORIGINAL paper MUST be presented at check-in
- NO copies or faxes of registration papers will be allowed

Swine

- Check-in paint number MUST be legible upon entering the show ring or the animal will not be allowed to show.
- Derby show weigh-backs will be eliminated
- Fitting rules clarification (all species): Family member is defined as: parent, (mom, dad, step-parent-legal guardian), brother, sister, step-sibling.
- Rules clarification: All farrowing dates for purebreds will go by the dates on the registration papers (if conflicting with date on the ID form)

North Central Iowa Youth Beef Conference

An educational program sponsored by Iowa State University Extension for North Central Iowa youth involved with beef production will be held Saturday, January 24, 2009, at Ellsworth Community College, 1100 College Ave., Iowa Falls, Iowa. The program will run from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM with registration beginning at 9:00 AM in the T&I Building.

A variety of interactive workshops and sessions are being planned for youth 4th grade through high school who register for this event. Topics include: Journey through the Rumen and Beyond & Feeds and Ration Evaluation; Behind the Meat Counter; Speak Out for Beef; and Cattle Behavior & Handling.

There is no cost for youth to attend and a noon lunch will be provided. Parents are welcome to stay. Please pre-register by January 16, 2009 at your local County Extension Office.

Registrations must include the Iowa 4-H Medical Information/Release Form. Both forms are available on line at www.extension.iastate.edu/franklin For more information contact the Franklin County Extension Office at 641-456-4811.

Program Assistants at National 4-H Council

National 4-H Council is looking for individuals with at least a high school diploma (preferably some college experience) and a passion for youth development, hospitality, teaching, history, politics, or leadership. If you know a college student looking for credit towards graduation, National 4-H Council will happily work with the student and the school to make this possible. Listed below are links for information and application materials for both programs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact: Molly Young; Director, Youth Opportunities; myoung@4HCenter.org; 301-961-2812 OR Freeman Thompson; Coordinator, Youth Opportunities; ftompson@4HCenter.org; 301-961-2917

Wonders of Washington Program Assistant: *Application due December 1, 2008*

<http://www.wowwashington.org/programassistant.aspx>

Citizenship Washington Focus Program Assistant: Application due January 27, 2009

<http://www.citizenshipwashingtonfocus.org/programassistant.aspx>

Cyclone Horse Judging Camp

What: A 3 day camp for youth interested in horses and horse judging

When: June 11-13, 2009

Where: Iowa State University Campus

Who: Youth ages 12 to 18 years interested in horses, judging

Camp fees will include on-campus housing, food, instruction and evening fun! Register by May 15, 2009! For registration and forms: <http://www.ans.iastate.edu/faculty/index.php?id=nikkif>

For questions: Contact Nikki, nikkif@iastate.edu or 515-294-3996



Citizenship Washington Focus 2009

12 Counties - Central Iowa Area

Saturday, June 6 – Saturday, June 13, 2009

4-Hers, 15 years of age or older have a chance to experience the Summer of 2009 through a unique event known as Citizenship Washington Focus or CWF. CWF is the opportunity to participate in a nine-day trip through the heartland and our nation's capital.

The trip leaves from Central Iowa on Saturday morning June 6 and travels to the Gettysburg area. Sunday, there is time to tour the famous Civil War area before continuing to Washington DC. Sunday afternoon through Friday night is whirlwind of meetings, touring, fun, talking, sharing, and leaning. Following is a tentative list of events and activities that will take place.

Arriving in Washington DC, participants will spend time getting settled at the 4-H Center. The 4-H center is a secure 12-acre campus with accommodations for 800. It includes a fitness center, full-court basketball, sandpit volleyball, recreation room with cyber cafe, game arcade and large screen television and an all-you-can eat buffet in the Clover Café. Once settled, 4-Hers can consider auditioning for the talent show, signing up for committees, take time for dinner, and getting acquainted with 4Hers from across the country by trading state pins and socializing.

Monday includes a trip to Mount Vernon, a guest speaker, more meeting and socializing and Nightview, the week's signature event, is a tour of our nation's most historic sites beautifully illuminated.

The week continues with tours of the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, an orientation to Capitol Hill and a comedy show in the evening. Mid-week is when the 4-H delegation visits Capitol Hill to meet Iowa Representatives. The next day there are meetings, workshops, practice for the talent show and a Night Out on the Town. The final day allows continuation of sight-seeing, shopping and a farewell dinner dance helping us say our goodbyes and concluding our visit before boarding the bus back home to Iowa.

Cost of the trip is approximately \$1,327. This includes, bus transportation, overnight stays, tours, accommodations at the National 4-H Center, insurance, most meals and entertainment.

Coordinating the trip for the 12 counties is Marc Peterson, Youth Field Specialist. He can be contacted at Polk County Extension at 515-957-5780 or by emailing marc@iastate.edu . Contact your local Extension Office for more information and application forms or visit the website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/cwf.htm>

