

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

## ***Benton County 4-H Family Connection***

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

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### August/September 2009

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#### **THANK YOU!!**

Words cannot express our deep & sincere appreciation to each and every exhibitor, parent, volunteer, supporter, leader, spouse, committee member, fair board member and staff for all of the hard work, long hours and dedicated effort in making our fair a great success! The Benton County Fair is something to be very proud of. ***Each of you are a vital part of what makes our 4-H Program and the county fair the great experience it is each year!***

#### **Don't Forget...**

If you received a trophy, picture frame or pen set, PLEASE make sure to send your thank you to the sponsor(s) of your award. Those awards would not be possible without those sponsors. If you have lost the tag that was attached to your award, please contact Patti at the Extension Office and she will get you the information that you need.

#### **Pastries and Paperwork – Fall Leaders Meeting 9/8**

The Fall Leaders Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on September 8<sup>th</sup>, at Windsor Manor in Vinton. To give the night a bit more flare and fun, we are having pastries and beverages to go with our paperwork. I know each of you dread the year end paperwork that we endure each year and I appreciate your hard work and diligence. ☺ Jackie Luckstead, our Youth Field Specialist, will be leading the leaders' training session which is on Family Involvement. Please remember that leaders are required to have 2 training sessions each year to stay current as a 4-H Leader. If you are unable to attend the meeting, contact Michelle at the Extension Office to check out the CD or to get the materials to go through the session online.



## **Post Fair Comments**

The 4-H Committee always wants to hear your comments and suggestions on the Benton County Fair. If you have a suggestion, concern, or compliment, please feel free to send a letter, e-mail or call and let Michelle know and it will be shared with the 4-H Committee at their September meeting. If you prefer, you are always welcome to attend the meetings. Adults are not the only ones who can attend, members can too! We ask that you call ahead to let Michelle know that you will be attending and can put you on the agenda. Please remember that you are welcome to share your thoughts throughout the 4-H year with the 4-H Committee, staff or Extension Council. The only way that we can improve is to get feedback from everyone!

## **Leader of the Year nominations Needed!**

Does your leader just amaze you with his/her organizational ability? Does he/she have the ability to help you understand that your potential is unlimited? Can he/she run a meeting with their eyes closed and NOT go crazy with everyone talking? Then we want to know!! Leader of the Year nominations are needed by **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. Nominations can be made via e-mail, snail mail or even a phone call. All that we ask is that you tell us why your leader is the best of the best! Get your nomination in today!

## **Record Books due October 15<sup>th</sup>!**

Any member (with 3 years or more in a project area) considering project awards for their record books must have their COMPLETED record book turned into the Extension Office by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Historian, Treasurer and Secretary's Book are also due October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that **all clubs are REQUIRED to turn in their Treasurer Books**. Record book paperwork is available from your leader or the Extension Office. Each record book is required to have:

1. Yearly Summary
2. Livestock Record(s)
3. Home ec./S.E.E. project write up(s).

\* Pictures are always welcome and encouraged by the 4-H Committee but are not required. Your record book needs to be divided by either year (2009, 2008, etc.) or by project area (woodworking, swine, horses, etc.) with the current year in the front. Award sheets will be mailed directly to senior members. Please contact your leader of the Extension Office if you have any questions.

## **County Council Nominations Needed!**



## **Attention! 2009 State Fair Photography Exhibitors**

If your photo was exhibited at the state fair and you don't know what to do with it after you get home, donate it! The Extension Office accepts photos that have been displayed at the State Fair, has them framed and then displays them in the office. If you are interested in donating your picture to the Extension Office, please contact Michelle and let her know at 319-472-4739 or [thomsenm@iastate.edu](mailto:thomsenm@iastate.edu) .

## **2009 State Fair Special Awards**

It is a true honor to have your project selected for State Fair. It is an even bigger honor to receive a special award at state fair! The following projects received special recognition in the Home Ec./S.E.E. project areas.

Food & Nutrition - Margaret Bruce, Coffee Cookies

Live Healthy Iowa Group Exhibit – Canton Upstreamers

Margaret Bruce and the Canton Upstreamers 4-H Club will receive a monetary check from the Machine Shed Restaurants and Iowa Department OF Education, respectively. Congratulations!!

## **2009 North Central Region Volunteer Forum**

*Are you looking for a fun training and networking opportunity as a 4-H volunteer? The 2009 North Central Region Volunteer Forum is scheduled for **October 1 - 4, 2009 in Lincoln, Nebraska**. Every year, over 400 4-H volunteers, youth, and staff from twelve states gather to learn new and practical ideas to help their clubs through fun, hands on workshops. Iowa volunteers who attend Forum tell us they return re-energized and with new skills and ideas to help them have a successful club year.*

The event will feature 70 educational workshops, three keynote speakers, sharing and some time to celebrate. The registration fee is \$200 for the full forum or \$110 per day. Registration information and the workshop schedule are available at <http://4h.unl.edu/volunteers/forum.htm> . You may submit your registration on-line and mail in your check, but registration will not be considered complete until your check has been received. Registration forms may also be mailed in. Scholarship money for the forum is available to those volunteers who attended either the 2008 or 2009 Iowa State Volunteer Retreat. There is also scholarship money available for 4-H volunteers from the old Southeast Area through a memorial fund. Contact the Extension Office about scholarship availability.

## **2009 SE Area Intermediate Clothing Event Was a Great Success!**

SE Area Intermediate Clothing Event went on without a hitch last Friday August 7 at the Coralville Library. Although it was a bit wet, there were 36 participants which included males and females, representing 16 counties. The morning session was presented by Rick Crooks, Director of Miss Muscatine Pageant and Pageant Coach (among many other things, Rick is a 4H Alumnus, and a mental health professional). Mr. Crooks addressed clothing as an image and how one should “Dress for Success” along with a few coaching tips on modeling. Melissa Stahl, ISU Extension Food and Nutrition Specialist presented a session on Etiquette that included appropriate table setting and table manners as well as cell phone etiquette. The participants shared lunch and ended the day with a Fashion Review that included Clothing Selection, Construction and the \$15 Challenge. Congratulations to Benton County participants Natalie Hanson & Liz Fischer for a great day!

## **To Answer A Few Questions...**

Many of you have heard about changes concerning staffing related to the Extension Service. 4-H is also making changing to better meet the needs of youth and volunteers in Iowa. Our newly formed region of Linn, Benton, and Jones counties will have a change in 4-H youth development staff.

Jackie Luckstead, 4-H Youth Specialist who works in Jones, Jackson and Clinton Counties – starting September 1, 2009 will be the Regional 4-H Youth Development Program Specialist serving Jones, Linn and Benton Counties. Jackie brings 4-H parent experience, club leader experience, and great programming experience to the position.

Ann Torbert, 4-H Youth Specialist who works in Linn, Benton, and Iowa counties, starting September 1, 2009, will be the Urban 4-H Youth Development Program Specialist serving Linn County. Ann will assist Jackie with the transition in Linn and Benton counties. Ann will explore ways to create more 4-H experiences in the urban areas and out of school programs.

Both Jackie and Ann appreciate your patience during this transition. If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to email them at [luckstea@iastate.edu](mailto:luckstea@iastate.edu) (Jackie) or [atorbert@iastate.edu](mailto:atorbert@iastate.edu) (Ann). For more information about ISU’s restructuring plan visit [www.extension.iastate.edu](http://www.extension.iastate.edu) and click on restructuring.

## **2009 Youth Dairy Classic**

**When:** Saturday, September 19, 2009

**Where:** Fayette County Fairgrounds, West Union, Iowa

Information regarding the Youth Dairy Classic:

- \*The Youth Dairy Classic is a dairy show that is open to any youth who was 9 years old and no more than 19 years old on January 1, 2009.
- \* There is no geographic limitations for exhibitors.
- \* Ownership of animals is required prior to May 15, 2009. Registration must be at least partially in the junior’s name or a family farm name, or animal



must be a bonafide 4-H or FFA project.

\* Exhibitor must bring some form of identification such as registration papers, DHIA or grade ID. Registered and identified female animals are eligible. Grades with proper 4-H and FFA identification form are welcome to show and *online entry forms can be found at:*

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/allamakee/news/youth.htm>

# This I Believe

Indiana 4-H Club Staff

*(It's not only what we know but what we believe that determines what we do)*

- 1. The 4-H boys and girls are more important than the 4-H project.**
- 2. 4-H is not trying to replace the home, church, and school – only supplement.**
- 3. 4-H'ers should be their own best exhibit.**
- 4. No 4-H Award is worth sacrificing the reputation of a 4-H member or leader.**
- 5. Competition is a natural human trait and should be recognized as such in 4-H Club work. It should be given no more emphasis than other fundamentals in 4-H.**
- 6. Learning how to do a project is more important than the project itself.**

**7. Many things are caught**



**rather than taught.**

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- 8. A blue ribbon youth with a red ribbon pig is more desirable than a red ribbon youth with a blue ribbon pig.**
- 9. To “learn by doing” is a fundamental in any sound educational program and characteristic of the 4-H program.**
- 10. Learning “how” to think is more important than “what” to think**