

Club Information

Ames Area

Ames All-Star Achievers – Leader Val Dickson 515-292-5712, Steven Schroder 515-292-8934

The club meets on once per month on a Sunday usually 2 – 3:30 pm. Youth are in grades 4-12. The club focus is on animals, leadership, & community betterment. They have helped at the Animal Rescue League & adopted a community flower bed.

***Ames Mighty Muskrats – Leader Cathy Miller 515-233-4779**

Monthly meeting dates vary, usually the first Saturday or Sunday of the month in various locations including family homes. Clover Kids meet at the same time. Members (from Ames, Nevada, & Story City) participate in a craft at each meeting led by the host. Events – yearly theme, club overnight, Holiday events, Spring Fling, Mother's Tea, Club Award Program, Achievement Show, Bake Sale, etc. Many different project interests welcome including photography, swine, rabbit, clothing, cat, cooking and dog.

***Washington AMES – Leader Natalie Short 515-292-3024**

3rd Sunday each month, 2-4:30 pm, ISU 4-H Bldg, Clover Kids meet at the same time. Club business meeting is first, followed by a project meeting – record keeping, woodworking, sewing, photography, cooking, visual art, rocketry, etc. Simple projects with limited cost. Not specialized, designed to meet the interests of members.

***Washington Happenings (meets with Richland Royals) – Leader Deanna Collins 515-292-0414**

The two clubs meet together in Christy Hall in Nevada. Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month 4 pm – 5:30 pm. There is recreation and crafts. Project interests include Horse, Photography, Poultry, Dairy, Dog, and Sheep. Service projects involved horse stalls, long term care, Toys for Tots, and the Community Food Bank.

*** Roots and Shoots – Leader Lisa Harmison 515-231-5926**

Enjoy a club garden, field trips, and service projects. Through this horticulture based club, explore flowers, soil conservation, insects, wildlife, and much more! The whole family will enjoy experiences together! Great for anyone living in and around Ames! Activities available for youth in grades K-5 with the assistance of parents and the master gardener club leaders. The Roots and Shoots 4-H club is sponsored by the Story County Master Gardener Association and the Ames Garden Club.

Tinkering with Science – Contact Eldon Bensen—515-382-6551

Take things apart and learn how they work. Geared toward youth in grades 6-10.

Collins-Maxwell Area

Collins Clippers – Leader Cyndy Huntrods 641-385-2268

Our club has approximately 15 members. We usually meet at the Collins-Maxwell Elementary building in Collins the second Sunday of the month (time may vary). We hold election of officers in October and Family Night take place in November when we install new officers and members. Some of our community service includes upkeep of the perennial garden at Trailside Park in Collins and helping serve at the annual Collins alumni banquet. Other activities in the past have included making a float for Collins Day along with helping with the games, and donating money from bake sales to help with various community fund raisers. Club leaders are Cyndy Huntrods and Dave Struthers.

***Indian Creek Circles – Leader Ann Wilkening 515-387-8995**

We meet the second Sunday of the month usually. We meet on a different Sunday if the original is a holiday. We don't meet in July, August, or December. Meetings are at the Maxwell Community Center at 4 pm. Presentations are given by club members or special guests. In June, we have a club tour followed by a potluck. Members are able show their animals, gardens, and other projects to their fellow club members. Last, members sang songs at the nursing home and the Nevada Hospital, then went for pizza and bowling. Clover kids meet about 5:30 pm after the 4-H meeting and work on projects.

Gilbert Area

Franklin Happy-Go-Luckies – Leaders Ed Engle & Julie Larson 515-233-0223

2nd Sunday each month 3-4:30 in families' homes or Gilbert High School
Family night held each year on the evening of Sunday before Thanksgiving
20-25 members in grades 4-12, many from Gilbert school, about half are junior 4-H'ers
Projects: photography, visual art, pets, poultry, food & nutrition

Colo-Nesco Area

***Country Pioneers – Leaders: Bob Jamison 641-377-2657, Rodney Geisinger 641-377-2651,**

Alissa McKinney 515-710-7794, Craig McEnany 515-382-6898, Dennis Hapes 641-377-3125

The Country Pioneers meet the 2nd Monday of each month usually at 7:00pm in the basement of St. Mary's Catholic Church. We have three potlucks: Father's Potluck in February, Mother's Potluck in April and a Family Potluck/Installation of Officers in November. We have the Achievement Show in June which helps members with their fair projects. Club members give presentations during meetings and also serve as hosts. We have two guest speakers during the year. The club works on several citizenship projects for the community. Our favorite project is delivering fruit baskets with holiday goodies and caroling to the seniors in the area during December. We have a float in the Colo Crossroads Festival Parade plus a club fundraiser in July. The club plans several social activities; a swim party in August, Halloween Party in October and a bowling/pizza party in the spring. Club members are involved in many different 4-H activities such as sheep, cattle, swine, horses, small pets, cooking, clothing, photography, visual arts, archery, gardening, 4-H camp, and Leadership Team to name a few. There are 20-25 members in grades 4-12.

***Richland Royals (meets with Washington Happenings) – Leaders Claire Hall 515-382-2488, Eileen Miller 515-231-9377**

The two clubs meet together in various communities in Story County. Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of each month 4 pm – 5:30 pm. There is recreation and crafts. Project interests include Horse, Dog, and Sheep. Service projects involved horse stalls, long term care, Toys for Tots, and the Community Food Bank.

Central Iowa Aggies– Leader Kim Roberts 641-487-7277

Likely to meet on a Thursday at the middle school or the Threshold Learning Center.

Currently, junior 4-H members with various interests: pets, sewing, camping, arts, etc.

Also thinking about a club fundraiser

Nevada Area

Central Area Tech Team – Leader Jane Runneals 515-382-5066

Meets the 2nd Saturday each month at 1 pm to explore tech-related issues such as computers and programming, robotics, digital photography, web design, GPS, GIS Mapping, and more. Meetings are very hands-on, and there are frequently guest speakers, field trips, etc. An emphasis in the '08-'09 year will be on GIS mapping of community projects with specialized ESRI ArcMap 9.2 software received via a grant. E-mail is: central.area.tech.team@gmail.com, or view www.tt.flippedweb.com.

***Grant Guys & Gals – Leader Twila Longnecker 515-382-4441**

1st Sunday of each month, 4pm, at the Extension office. Family participation.

***Milford Marvels – Leader Alice Moody 515-382-2705**

2nd Sunday each month, often at 5pm, at the Extension office. Diverse group.

***Nevada Invaders – Leader Lori Mensing 515-382-3500**

3rd Saturday of each month except in the summer. Group encourages family participation. Nevada Invaders give work throughout the year on various projects, take educational trips, participate in various types workshops and participates in the communication contest. Past activities have included visiting the Butterfly Gardens, McFarland Park Night Hike and touring Mary Greeley Emergency Center. Members have learned how to make bread, weave baskets, make bee's wax candles, and much more. The group has volunteered at the Story County Animal Shelter and helped with Nevada Community Cupboard and Operation Military Kids. Clover Kids meet at the same time as 4-Her's. They attend the first part of the 4-Her's meeting then are dismissed to continue with their group activities. The Clover Kids have hosted a tea party and have made several crafts in which they are encouraged to display them at county fair.

***Richland Mid-State – Leader Mary Wilkins 515-382-6551**

2nd Sunday often at the Extension Office. 20 members, age vary ---- Many alumni adults (family) experience Variety activities, service project, barn tour. Projects: cattle, sheep, hogs

Cyclone Pet Partners – Leader Adriana Harle—515-382-6551

Complete the Delta Society training and testing in order to take your dog for visits to nursing homes, libraries, etc. Even participate in 4-H dog obedience classes and show at the county fair.

Roland-Story Area

***Howard Happy Helpers ~ Leaders Darrell and Brenda Jewell 515-388-4780**

Members: 31 (21 4-Hers, 10 clover kids)

Club Activities: Story County Youth Fair, Haunted Hay Ride in October, Family Night: installation of officers, awards and family potluck, Christmas Party: gift exchange, food and games, sledding party, participation in the Go the Distance Program: group fitness activities include a day of fun activities at the Story City Fitness Center and an afternoon of bowling at Carousel Lanes in Story City, Communication Contest, Club Tour, Achievement Show: the club goes as a group and visits member's homes who are involved in an animal or garden project, then we meet with an Achievement Show judge who goes over our other fair projects and advises us on how to finish them for fair, during the Achievement Show we fill out fair entry forms and grill burgers for supper, Roland Days Pancake Breakfast and Parade, monthly business meetings with workshops, presentations and recreational activities

Citizenship Projects: Community Food Drive in August: we collect, sort and stock the shelves at the Story City Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Deliver Welcome Packets to new Roland residents, Host a meeting, lead pledges, serve on a committee, etc.

Leadership Opportunities: Club officer roles, teach workshops, organize club activities, etc.

Communication Opportunities: Presentations at club meetings, share a project with the club at Club Tour, participate in county level activities such as the Communication Contest, Share the Fun, etc.

Fundraisers: Roland Days Pancake Breakfast in July, The Haunted Hay Ride in October

***Howard Rockets – Leaders Brady & Jody Friest 515-388-4315**

2nd Sunday 1:30 pm normally - 35 members

Empower youth to learn important life skills – communication, citizenship, leadership

Activities – fair, communication contest, monthly business meetings with workshops & presentations, bowling party, swimming party, record keeping, county and club award programs.

Citizenship projects – make blankets for charities, use consumer skills to purchase food and supplies for Story City Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry and Ames Emergency Relief Shelter, making appreciation baskets for area businesses who support the 4-H program. Volunteering with Roland-Story PTO carnival and plant sale, making the pumpkin pies for Story City Community Thanksgiving Meal

Leadership Opportunities – Washington DC for grades 10-12, club officer roles

Fundraiser – Pop Ring Toss at local community celebrations

Lafayette Leaders: Roger & Sherry Olsen 515-328-3366, Brad & Julie Skaar 515-733-2702

Usually meets the 3rd Monday of the month. The schedule varies to accommodate school activities. The club has some weekend activities and meetings. Most members are Jr. High age and younger. We also have a Clover Kid leader to help instruct younger siblings. **Project areas:** beef, sheep, swine, horse, poultry, dog, gardening, baking, photography, clothing construction, visual arts, science, etc. **Activities:** county and state fair, camping, educational tours, communication contest, family night potluck, hot dog roast, sledding party, bowling, monthly business meetings with how-to workshops and recreation activities. **Citizenship:** raising money and collecting donations for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, 4-H Camping Center, and Riverside Bible Camp, Creating a scene for project photos on the Story County Fair Grounds. **Leadership Opportunities:** club officer roles, giving presentations and demonstrations, heading project committees, project camps and Iowa 4-H camping center opportunities encouraged. **Fundraiser:** mini- gold course for Scandinavian Days, provide concession stand for the Story County Communication's Contest

Home School

***Happy Homebodies – Leader Cyndie Drury 515-708-1582**

3rd Friday, 1-3 pm in Christy Hall usually. June & July, no meeting, but activities. August meeting is on a Friday that doesn't conflict with state fair. Homeschoolers from around Story County. Club formed by leaders that homeschool to meet unique needs of homeschool families. Entire families always welcome. Projects: horses, dogs, goats, poultry, and other non-livestock projects

Ballard Area

Ballard Blaze – Leaders Mike & Dorothy Smith 515-708-3814

Usually 2nd Sunday of the month (September – May)

6:30 pm at the shelter house in Nord-Kalsem Park, Huxley

Club has an overnight at a local church in November, includes workshops and service projects (fun and sleep too)

Variety project interest: clothing, science, woodworking, photography, etc

Slater Stars – Leaders Roberta Kling 515-769-2467 Diane Fulk 515-685-2212

Has yearly club dues, small like maybe \$2.00

Enroll in at least one project and complete records for the year

Sunday (date varies each month)

Meet often at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Slater or the Kelley Community Center.

Members give presentations at the club level, often county communication contest.

***Palestine Peppy Pushers – Leaders Leonard Foley 515-597-3294 and Larry Anderson 515-597-2324**

The Palestine Peppy Pushers 4-H club was organized in 1938 and has been an active 4-H club in Southwest Story County each year since its inception. It is a coed club, with a membership in 2008 of about fifty-four members, including about seventeen Clover Kids. Membership is made up primarily of young boys and girls from the Ballard School District which is Huxley, Slater, Kelley and Cambridge.

The club is very active in a variety of projects including all species of livestock, visual arts and photography, computer science and mechanics, small engine, welding, wildlife, entomology and veterinary science. The members actively exhibit at the Story County Fair, the Iowa State Fair and several national competitions. Many of the life skills are learned through membership in the 4-H club. Goal setting, responsibility and decision making are all learned through the completion of one or more individual projects each year. However the leaders have put a special emphasis on learning good communications skills. Many of our past and present members have competed successfully at the county communications contest and have been chosen to go on to compete at state competition at the Iowa State Fair. These communication skills have also helped a number of our members earn National 4-H recognition.

The club meets the third Sunday evening of each month, from 6:30 to about 7:45 pm at Nord-Kalsem Park in Huxley. The club's large membership has created an opportunity to elect two complete sets of officers. This has allowed a significant number of young people to serve in a leadership position, thus learning the responsibilities accompanying these positions. The senior officers conduct about seventy percent of the meetings and the assistant officers conduct the remaining meetings. The arrangement has worked very well and has been welcomed by its members.

While the membership has always been active in both their projects and their many other related 4-H activities, our club has been fortunate to have a strong parent participation group. The leaders have involved about a dozen parents as adult project leaders each year in various project areas they may have special expertise in. The strong parental support, along with a number of youth service and project leaders, have long been a key to the continued success of the club. Several parents of our Clover Kids are responsible for the activities of this special group of future 4-H members. They do special projects as a group; however, they are encouraged to attend regular meetings and all other activities so they feel they are a part of the club's activities also.

The club is extremely active in local community service. Members are encouraged to volunteer and participate in a variety of community activities. The large membership of our club makes it possible to conduct numerous fund raising activities. This has allowed our club to contribute both physically and monetarily to the communities our members come from. Firewood sales have been a major source of revenue for the club for twenty-eight consecutive years. In addition, the club owns and rents out a large pancake grill. Community pancake breakfasts are held three or four times each winter.

The 4-H club also owns a twenty-six foot concession trailer, selling such items as sno-cones, cotton candy, popcorn, hot dogs, nachos and cheese, pop and water. It also includes a Spin Art machine, ring-toss, football, and basketball games. This trailer is used each year at such events as the local July 4th celebration and the Huxley Prairie Festival each August. Proceeds from our fund raising activities help pay for members' attendance at the Washington Focus trips, summer 4-H camps, club members' participation in 4-H conferences, and club special fun and holiday activities. However a large percent of the proceeds have allowed us to contribute to establishment of the Kelly Sports Park, renovation of the Slater Pool and the Slater Community Club's new stage shelter, procurement of a permanent sign for the Cambridge annual June Jubilee Days, building of an outdoor amphitheater for Railroad Park in Huxley, and purchase of automated external defibrillators for the Slater, Cambridge and Huxley communities.

Each year our club sponsors one or two Scholarships for our graduating members through the Ballard Dollars For Scholars program. The scholarships are given in the name of Dr. Shannon C. Whipp, a long time donor of firewood for our annual firewood sales.

The 4-H program is very strong in the Ballard School District area. A large number of area youth are involved and they do a wonderful job of promoting 4-H in our communities. The 4-H club is extremely visible in our communities and the residents of our communities support our club and its activities in everything we do. Having a strong and active 4-H program locally and the fine support of our Story County Extension staff has been a key to the long term continued success of the 4-H program in our area of Story County.

Persons interested in learning more about our club or membership, may contact Leonard Foley at 597-3294 or Larry Anderson at 597-2324. New members are always welcome.