



SEPTEMBER 2017 CLOVER CONNECTION



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Calendar of Events

September

- 4 Office Closed
- 5 4-H Enrollment Begins
- 6 Fair Superintendents Meeting
- 7 Fairboard Meeting
- 19 YAC Meeting
- 28-Oct 1 Ak-Sar-Ben
- 29 SOFA Planning Committee Applications Due

October

- 1-7 National 4-H Week
- 1 4-H Fall Fest
- 4 Record Books/Officer Books/Banner Club Form/Youth Council Applications Due
- 5 Fairboard Meeting
- 16 Record Book Judging Night
- 18 Record Book Judging Night
- 19 Club Officer Training
- 27 CyDay Friday
- 30 Club Officer Training

November

- 2 Fairboard Meeting
- 12 County Convention
- 14 New Member Night

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2 Thank You!
Thank Your Supporters
Congratulations Exhibitors
Fair Leftovers/Lost and Found
Record Books
Officer's Books
- 3 Club Food Drive Challenge
- 4 Record Book Judging Night
2017 County Convention
County Convention Slideshow
4-H Online Re-Enrollment
Emails
- 5 2017-2018 Youth Council
Youth Representatives Needed
SOFA Planning Committee
National 4-H Week
- 6 Save the Date: 4-H Fall Fest
Cass County RAMS
Officer Training
New Member Night
First Lego League

805 W. 10TH STREET, ATLANTIC, IA | 712-243-1132 | 8:00 AM-4:30 PM



Thank you!

A **BIG** thank you to all the 4-H members, leaders, volunteers, Fairboard members and 4-H families for making the 2017 Cass County Fair a success! The dedication and hard work that was showcased through the exhibits and activities were amazing! Keep up the great work!

Thank Your Supporters

It takes a lot of people to plan and conduct the Cass County Fair. Before fall becomes very busy, don't forget to send those people who contributed to your success at the fair a thank you note. Here are some ideas of people that may have assisted in your successes--award donors, livestock buyers, auctioneers, 4-H leaders, superintendents, veterinarians, Fairboard members, and even your parents deserve a quick thanks! If you aren't sure who or where to send your thank you, call the Extension Office to find out. The Cass County Fair would not be the same without those people who are willing to go above and beyond to make the Cass County Fair the best fair around. Please do your part to recognize these 4-H supporters and show them they are appreciated.

Congratulations Exhibitors!

Congratulations to all exhibitors who represented Cass County at the Iowa State Fair. Whether you exhibited a livestock project, showcased your communication skills during Working Exhibits, Share-The-Fun and Educational Presentations, or showcased your talents through the static exhibits, you all did a wonderful job representing Cass County!

Fair Leftovers/Lost and Found

There are still many items left here in the extension office from the Fair. If you know anyone who has lost something, or did not get all items picked up, please have them stop in to claim their items. Also a blue hog sorting panel was lost. If this got in your belongings on accident please return it to the office and we will get it to who it belongs to. If you lost something and you need help locating items please let office staff know so we can try to find them.

Record Books

Record book deadlines will be here before we know it! Record Books are due to your club leader in September. Please contact your club leader for the exact date they would like your record book. The club leader & other club adult volunteers will review your record book and nominate you for special record book awards. Junior (grades 4-6 as of May 2017) and Intermediate (grades 7-8 as of May 2017) will automatically receive the award the club leader nominates them for, Senior (grades 9-12 as of May 2017) record books will be reviewed by the club leader, nominated for awards, and then turned into the Extension Office by October 4 for the county review process. We will reviewing the Senior level books on October 16 beginning at 5:30 PM.

Record Books are a great way to track progress throughout the 4-H year. There are even scholarship opportunities for 4-Her's who have kept an up to date record book. If you are online, you can download a computerized template of some of the record keeping forms. Visit our web page at www.extension.iastate.edu/cass for record book forms, tips and more! Prefer paper copies? Give us a call and we can get them printed for you to pick up. Leaders need to turn senior record books nominated for project awards and award sheets into the Extension Office by October 4.

Officer's Books

Attention Club Secretaries, Treasurers & Historians --- We want to recognize you for your hard work, so make sure your officer books are turned into the Extension Office by October 4 to be evaluated. Top books will be announced at County Convention, November 12. Don't forget your club collects banner club points for turning in these books. **Again in 2017!** Club Treasurers Books are required to be turned into the Extension Office along with a completed audit form; contact your club leader for an audit form.

Please turn in your officer books by October 4 to earn recognition for your hard work!



Club Food Drive Challenge at County Fair

THANK YOU to all club members and community supporters who took part in the Food Drive Challenge at the County Fair. Challenge winners were decided based on number of items donated, with an added incentive from the Atlantic Hy-Vee to match the donations collected by the winning club! Items were tallied throughout the fair, with a total of 904 items being donated by the end of fair. The winning club was the Cowpokes 4-H Club with 182 items collected! After this donation was matched by Atlantic Hy-Vee, the total amount collected was 1086 items. These donations were sorted according to needed items requested by pantries, and donated to the Atlantic Food Pantry, the Anita Food Pantry and the Lord's Cupboard pantry in Griswold.

Club	Total Items
Cowpokes	182
Griswold Clubsters	168
Union Leaders	151
Benton Franklin	82
Pymosa	77
G & L Clovers	71
Grove HOT	68
Washington GEM	46
Pleasant Noble United	23
Cass County RAMS	19
Brighton	9
Bear Grove Blazers	6
C & M Champions	2
Hy-Vee (Matched Cowpokes Donation)	182
TOTAL	1086

We received three Thank You letters in the mail from the local food pantries. I wanted to be sure and share them with all of you! Thank you again for all of your generous donations and efforts!

To: Cass County 4-H Clubs

The Lord's Cupboard members want to thank you for the large amount of food products you collected during the fair and donated to the Griswold Community Lord's Cupboard. We do appreciate your help.

Barb Schroeder, Secretary

Dear Friends and 4-H Clubs

Words alone can not express how grateful and thankful we are for your very generous donations to the Anita Food Pantry. We are so blessed to live in communities that are so generous. Your donations came at such a wonderful time as our shelters were getting low. Thank you again and God bless.

Anita Food Pantry

To Extension Staff and 4-Her's:

The Atlantic Food Pantry so appreciates the many food items you brought to us. Thank you so much. When we think of the Cass County Fair, our first thought is of the numerous duties involved in preparing each animal, project, anything pertaining to the County Fair for presentation. Still, you managed to think about food items for the pantries. We believe that good 4-H training shows up there!! We are so grateful for those useful groceries— just what we are happy to give to those people among us who are in need of additional food items. More people are finding it necessary to come to the Pantry for help which makes your contribution more valuable. Thank you again. You have made a difference.

The Atlantic Food Pantry, Board of Directors



Record Book Judging Night

Mark your calendars on October 16 and 18 at 5:30 PM for Record Book Judging Night. The Youth Action Committee asks all clubs to have at least two adult representatives help judge the senior record books for project awards. If you cannot be there at 5:30 PM, that is OK! Please come when you can to help judge the senior record books. Plan to be at the Cass County Community Center on October 16 and or 18 to evaluate the outstanding work our 4-Hers have done during the 2016-2017 4-H year!

2017 4-H County Convention

County Convention is a great time to celebrate the previous year's accomplishments, recognize award winners and close out the year with an enjoyable time with your clubs and other 4-H members in the county. At this year's County Convention on **November 12 at 2 PM**, recognition will be given to project award winners and leaders as well as the new Youth Council will be installed. Special club awards will also be presented. This is an event you won't want to miss! Mark your calendars for November 12 to celebrate 4-H with other 4-Hers in the county at the 2017 County Convention!

County Convention Slideshow

County Convention is a great time to wrap up the past year in 4-H and showcase some of the great things you did in your 4-H club and/or with your 4-H friends. If you have group photos of some of the 4-H events this past year, please share them for the County Convention Slideshow! Email photos to Shelby at shelbyrw@iastate.edu to show the awesome things you did in 4-H this past year! Plan to attend County Convention on November 12 at 2 PM to see your photos on the slideshow!

4-H Online Re-Enrollment

September 5 marks the beginning of our new 4-H year, which means it is time to re-enroll and start thinking about which project areas you are interested in for next year. Remember you must re-enroll in 4-H each year to keep active 4-H member status. Do this early in the year to stay in the loop for upcoming events!

Please don't start re-enrolling until September 5. Prior to this date, we are still finalizing data from last 4-H year and your data will not be saved when we roll into the new 4-H year. After the 5th, remember to go to ia.4honline.com and log in with your e-mail and password. It is okay to select the "I forgot my password" option and the program will walk you through the steps of getting a new password. There are also lots of good help sheets at:

www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/4honlineinformation-families-and-leaders.

We would like to have **all** returning members re-enrolled by November 1. Please be on the lookout in your email or mail for a fun re-enrollment incentive.

If you have any questions about the re-enrollment process or need assistance, please call the Extension office.

Emails

It is very important that when you re-enroll that you make sure you are giving us an email address where you want all important 4-H information through the year to go to. If you change emails, just simply call the office so that we can get it changed or log into your account and change it there. If you are not receiving my emails please call the office so that we can make sure you are getting the information you need. If you still want to receive the newsletter in the mail that is fine just make sure to check mail copy when re-enrolling. With any question contact Shelby at the Extension office.



2017-2018 Youth Council

Looking for a fun way to get involved, meet other 4-H members from around the county and develop leadership skills? Youth Council is just what you are looking for! Youth Council is an important part of our 4-H program in Cass County that 4-H members in grades 10-12 can get involved in. Youth Council helps plan and conduct events for 4-H members on a county-wide basis, give feedback on the direction of the 4-H program in Cass County, and have fun while developing leadership skills and learning from one another. Sound like fun? Applications are available at the Extension Office or online at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/>. Please return the application to the Extension Office by October 4.

Youth Representatives Needed

Are you a senior level 4-Her that likes to see change and improve the organization you are involved in? Do you enjoy developing and sharing your leadership skills and experiences? Youth Action Committee is just what you need to be involved in! Youth Action Committee (commonly known as YAC) is the program development committee that works on programming and policies related to our county 4-H program. Even more familiar, they plan the volleyball tournament, Mardi Gras and County Convention.

We are looking for Senior Level 4-H members to serve a one year term on YAC. If you have any questions about YAC, what it takes to be a YAC member and are interested in serving on YAC, contact the Extension Office! Don't pass up this great opportunity to serve on this important 4-H Committee!

SOFA Planning Committee

2017 marked the 23rd anniversary of SOFA. In 2018 we will continue our third decade of guiding youth toward agricultural careers and helping them find their voice to advocate for agriculture. Would you like to be a part of the Speak Out For Agriculture (SOFA) planning committee? We are seeking interested high school students to help plan the trip and contact donors. This is an excellent opportunity to build your leadership and communication skills. Applications are due **October 4** to the Extension office. Applications are available on the Cass County Extension website or at the Extension office.

National 4-H Week

Mark your calendar! National 4-H Week will be celebrated October 1-7. This is a great time to invite friends and classmates to join in the fun of 4-H. Begin planning now for promotional activities in your school and communities. We'd like to see each club do something new and special to celebrate National 4-H Week. Email photos to us and let us promote your activity or event during the week!

Here are some ideas to get you thinking about activities:

- Make clover-shaped cookies and deliver them to 4-H supporters.
- Put up a window display in a local business.
- Present 4-H bookmarks to local schools, libraries, etc.
- Have all the members of your club wear their 4-H t-shirts to school.

Email photos of the great things your club is doing to the Extension Office to use to promote 4-H on social media!

Window Display Contest

A great way to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week is by creating a window display in your community. Contact a local business and ask to use their window to create a promotional message about 4-H. The Youth Action Committee wants to recognize clubs for your hard work of promoting 4-H. All displays must be up and ready to be viewed by 8:00 AM, Monday, October 2. To enter your club in the Window Display Contest, please email a photo of your display to shelbyrw@iastate.edu by October 4. Good luck promoting 4-H!



Save The Date: 4-H Fall Fest

Join us on the Cass County Fairgrounds for the 4-H Fall Fest on October 1 from 4-6 PM. Kick off National 4-H Week by participating in games & activities, gather a team for the Ag Obstacle Course and celebrate 4-H at the 4-H Fall Fest. A potluck dinner will start at 4:30 PM. Bring a side dish or dessert to share and enjoy the main dish provided by the Cass County Fairboard. All 4-H families, volunteers, and prospective 4-Hers are invited to attend this fun event!

Cass County RAMS

The Cass County RAMS 4-H Club is seeking adults who are interested in being trained as certified shooting sports coaches. Along with that, the RAMS 4-H club has graduated out many of their members so they are also seeking 4-Her's who are interested in taking part in those shooting sports activities if they find a certified shooting sports leader. If you know of youth who would enjoy the shooting sports disciplines (Rifles, Archery, Muzzle Loaders and Shot Guns), please let them know about this opportunity.

Officer Training

Club Officer Training will be held here in Atlantic at the Community Center on two different nights. October 19th and 30th from 6:30-8:00 PM are the set dates. You are only required to attend one night of your choice. New officers for the 2017-2018 4-H year should plan to attend. For more information and to pre-register contact the Extension office. This is a great way to meet 4-Her's from across the county and learn the duties of your 4-H office so you can start the year off right!

New Member Night

All new or second year 4-H members are invited to attend the New Members Night on November 14 at 6:30 PM. Bring your parents and learn about the opportunities in 4-H, learn about possible project ideas, record keeping, meet new friends, and much more! Please contact the Extension Office if you plan to attend this fun, informative event!

First Lego League (FLL)

Are you interested in learning about robotics to solve real – world problems? Working with a team of 4th-8th graders and adults coaches you can design, build, and program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS[®], then compete on a table-top playing field at a regional event. Tomorrow's innovators practice imaginative thinking and teamwork. Guided by two or more adult Coaches, *FIRST* LEGO League* teams (up to 10 members, grades 4-8) research a real -world problem such as food safety, recycling, energy, etc., and are challenged to develop a solution using robotics and problem solving skills. The theme for the 2017-2018 competition season is Hydro Dynamics.

The team will meet at least once a week from October–December. If you are interested in joining a Robotics team please contact Shelby at the Cass County Extension office ASAP but no later than September 15. We are hoping to have a parent meeting in late September to discuss our practice and team schedule. Any parents or other adults interested in coaching are encouraged to contact the office, technology experience not required.