

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • June 2023 Issue

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Focus:** Deadlines and announcements.

**Spotlight:** Club features, highlights, and events.

**Attention: Leaders!**  
Information on leader meetings, trainings, and other related topics.

**Animal & Livestock News:**  
Updates for livestock and animal exhibitors.

**Events & Opportunities:**  
Upcoming events and opportunities within Polk County 4-H and across the state.

**Calendar & Contacts:**  
Listing of events, meetings, workshops, and deadlines, and how to reach us.

## *June at a Glance*

- This month's issue of Clover Power is jammed packed with information about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and important information about the Polk County Fair! Make sure to take some notes!
- Check out the [County Fair Countdown](#) section for information on volunteering, fair entry, animal health, and a lot more!
- Showing animals? Make sure you have your certification in YQCA by July 1<sup>st</sup>! See [Animal & Livestock News](#) for a list of species that require this certification and how to get trained.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## Meet the Summer 2023 Interns!

### ***Beyonce Gonzalez***

Beyonce Gonzalez will be a senior at Iowa State University and is currently studying Elementary Education with an endorsement in reading/language arts. She is from a small, but very diverse community known as Perry, in Iowa. Beyonce is very passionate about sharing her Hispanic culture with others and is looking forward to educating others on the importance of diversity. This will be her second year working as an intern for Iowa State University Extension in Polk County, and she is excited to continue working with the community to teach about the impact of 4-H. Beyonce hopes to become a future elementary educator outside of Iowa, working with older kids. The thing she is looking forward to the most this summer is helping at the Polk County Fair. She can be reached at [beyonceg@iastate.edu](mailto:beyonceg@iastate.edu).

### ***Mattea Wilson***

Mattea Wilson is a student at Iowa State University and will be graduating in the Spring of 2024 in Family Consumer Sciences. At Iowa State, she is a member of the honor's program, and involved in the swing dancing club. She is passionate about spreading her love of Lindy Hop and other forms of swing dancing to others. In her free time, Mattea enjoys spending time outside, hanging out with her cat, baking cookies, and sewing skirts and dresses. In addition, Mattea enjoys trying new types of coffee and tea. Mattea grew up in central Iowa, and has volunteered for various educational programs for elementary-aged children, but is looking forward to a new experience working for Polk County's 4-H this summer! She can be reached at [copd\\_matteaw@iastate.edu](mailto:copd_matteaw@iastate.edu).



**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## FOCUS

*Keep up with the most important deadlines and announcements related to Polk County 4-H.*

### ***Polk County Fair 2023***

An updated schedule and portions of the fair book can be found on the Fair Board's [website](#).

**Don't forget to check the rules for Food and Nutrition—you can get answers in [this updated document](#) or by calling the [AnswerLine](#). Let the Good Times Grow for the 2023 Polk County Fair!**

### ***Silent Auction Baskets***

This year Polk County Youth Council is excited to announce the return of silent auction baskets. We want your help filling all the baskets!

We are asking that 4-H clubs, individuals, or groups, sponsor a basket to have raffled off at this year's Polk County Fair. Some ideas are a game night basket, a spa basket, or even a basket about your favorite project area! We are excited to see what you all come up with!

Please fill out this [Google Form](#) with your basket information. Information about where and when to bring the baskets will be in the July Clover Power.

***Check out the [County Fair Countdown](#) section for more information and opportunities at the fair!***



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## SPOTLIGHT

Take a peek at what our local clubs are doing! Submit your clubs spotlight moments [here](#).

### **Callanan 4-H Club**

Callanan 4-H Club members put together materials to make pillowcase dresses. They cut, measured and assembled the kits so they could be sewn together. Finished dresses will be sent to children in need through the Little Dresses for Africa program. Several Callanan students moved here from Africa, and it was a great opportunity to help.



### **Clover Power Submissions**

In addition to email you can now submit your Spotlight and other club submissions through this Spotlight [submission form](#).

Email submissions for **Clover Power** to Megan AND Marci AND Virginia.

For July's newsletter, submit by 6/28.



**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach



# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## ANIMAL & LIVESTOCK

Stay connected with Polk County 4-H Animal and Livestock news, deadlines, and requirements.

### **Youth For the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)**

**Everyone's certification will expire before the 2023 fair!** This certification is required for all youth exhibiting the following animals at the county or state fair. **Certification must be complete by July 1.**

- Cattle- Breeding, Market & Dairy
- Swine- Breeding & Market
- Sheep- Breeding & Market
- Goats- Breeding, Market & Dairy
- Poultry
- Rabbit

### **Training Options for 2023 Fair Season:**

[Online YQCA class option for all age levels \(Certification is good for 1 year\)](#)

- The online option costs \$12 per youth—*payable online only* via <https://yqcaprogram.org/>
- Youth must pass 3 quizzes with a score of 80% or above. If youth do not pass, they must wait 1 hour before retaking the quiz. Youth may retake as many times as necessary

### **Poultry Testing**

**ALL poultry will be required to have pullorum typhoid testing performed within 90 days of the Polk County Fair.** Certificates from the hatchery or store of purchase do not qualify as current testing; this certificate is invalid once the birds have entered your farm.

We will offer a testing day at the Polk County Extension Office in Altoona.

- June 24, 8:00-10:00 am
- July 6, 6:00-8:00 pm



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## Horse Project Information

**REQUIRED HORSE CLINICS** for all juniors (4-6 grade) and any exhibitor showing horses for the first time at Polk County, regardless of age. Clinics will be held at Prairie Rose Arena, 11045 NE 56th Street, Elkhart, from 6-9 p.m. Beginning Monday, May 1, and continuing every Monday until the county fair.

Each clinic is conducted by professional trainers/clinicians, and the topics will be announced ahead of time. All Polk County 4-H & FFA members are encouraged to attend; junior 4-H members and first-time exhibitors are **REQUIRED** to attend three clinics to be eligible to show at the county fair. There is no charge for these clinics, and riders of any experience level will benefit.

## HORSE CLINICS

SAVE THE DATES

<b>MAY-1</b> Horse Handling & Ring Etiquette ~ Horse Committee ~	<b>MAY-8</b> Ranch Horse ~ Ashley McLaughlin ~	<b>MAY-15</b> Trail ~ Brooke Hoven ~	<b>MAY-22</b> English Equitation ~ Tristen Wigg ~
<b>MAY-29</b> Topic - To Be Determined ~ TBD ~	<b>JUN-5</b> Hunter Jumper ~ Laura Reitveld ~	<b>JUN-12</b> Games: Barrels ~ Lauren Jaschke ~	<b>JUN-19</b> Jumping ~ Tristen Wigg ~
<b>JUN-26</b> Horse & Rider Mechanics ~ Kim Matthias ~	<b>JUL-3</b> Topic - To Be Determined ~ TBD ~	<b>JUL-10</b> Trail Obstacle Practice & Vet Inspections Offered ~ Horse Committee ~	Time: 6-9PM Location: Prairie Rose Arena, Elkhart

ALL JUNIORS (THOSE WHO'VE COMPLETED GRADES 4-6) AND ANY FIRST-TIME POLK COUNTY HORSE EXHIBITOR, REGARDLESS OF AGE OR EXPERIENCE, MUST ATTEND THREE POLK COUNTY 4-H/FFA CLINICS (OR PROFESSIONALLY HELD & PAID FOR CLINICS\*) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO SHOW AT THE COUNTY FAIR (FIRST-TIME EXHIBITORS OLDER THAN GRADE 6 MAY BE EXCUSED FROM FURTHER REQUIREMENTS AFTER COMING TO ONE CLINIC IF SUPERINTENDENTS ARE SATISFIED AS TO EXHIBITOR'S ABILITY TO RIDE AND CONTROL THEIR ANIMAL).

\*CONTACT MUST BE MADE TO SUPERINTENDENT(S) PRIOR TO CLINIC TO OBTAIN NECESSARY FORMS FOR COMPLETION BY CLINICIAN.

Join the  
Facebook group  
Polk County 4-H  
Horse for timely  
updates and  
more information.  
And ID THOSE  
HORSES!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

*Upcoming events and opportunities from Polk County 4-H and throughout the state.*

### ***Polk County Fair Teen Dance and Fun Night***

The Polk County Council is excited to announce we will be putting on a Teen Dance and Fun Night at the 2023 Polk County Fair. As this is our first year, we are spreading the word in hopes to find chaperones. **The dance and fun night will be held Monday, July 17th from 7-10 pm.** Your help and ideas would be greatly appreciated, please feel free to fill out the following forms for chaperone interest or song requests. Don't hesitate to contact Emma Lihs (lihsemma26@gmail.com) with any further questions!

[Song Request Form](#)

[Chaperone Interest Form](#)

### ***Clover Kids Livestock Workshop***

With the help of the Polk County Fairboard we will be offering a Clover Kids Livestock Workshop. This event will take place on June 23, 2023, at 5:00 pm at Prairie Rose Arena. We will be supplying hot dogs for supper. Youth K-3 rd grade are invited to participate in this event where they will have an opportunity to learn more about the following animal species: horse, cattle, sheep, swine, goat, rabbit, and dog. Registration for this event is required and can be completed [online](#).

### ***Bacon Buddies and Friends***

Back this year is Bacon Buddies but this year with friends! We need your help recruiting special needs youth as well as 4-H and FFA members to participate in this program. This year youth with special needs will be paired with 4-H and FFA exhibitors to exhibit swine or goats. If you know of a youth who is interested, please have them fill out this [form](#). If you are a 4-H or FFA exhibitor, please fill out this [form](#), you must be exhibiting swine or goats at the county fair and be willing to use your own animal. We will be hosting the pre-fair event on July 2 and the show will happen on July 20 at the Polk County Fair

**Check out the next page to mark your calendars for a car wash!**



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

FUNDRAISER

## CAR WASH

FREEDOM  
RIDER'S

JUNE 25  
12:00 - 3:00PM

THE BIG STEER

1715 NW Adventureland Dr  
Altoona, IA

FREE WILL DONATION

Suggested donation: \$10



THANK YOU TO THE BIG STEER  
FOR DONATING THE PARKING  
LOT SPACE!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or status as a U.S. veteran, or other protected classes. Direct inquiries to the Diversity Advisor, 515-294-1482, [extdiversity@iastate.edu](mailto:extdiversity@iastate.edu).



# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## COUNTY FAIR COUNTDOWN

*All of the info you need for the Polk County Fair!*

### **2023 Polk County Fair Date**

Mark your calendars for July 15-21, 2023!

Entries due: July 1, 2023, Our office will be closed so please plan accordingly!

Clothing Event: Saturday, July 8, 2023

### **Pre-Fair Meeting Recording**

If you were not able to make it for our annual pre-fair meeting in April or May you can view the recording [online](#).

### **Polk County Fair Entry**

2023 Entries will be only done [electronically](#).

- System will not open to receive entries until May 24
  - 4-H & Clover Kids will log-in with 4-H Online information
  - New FFA will need to create a log-in
  - If youth are showing 4-H and FFA they will log-in each way and have to have 2 separate entries.
  - Help sheets are on the homepage of the webpage.
- Entries can be paid via check, cash or credit card online.
- If people choose to pay by check or cash that is due to our office by July 1, 5 pm NOT postmarked by July 1. Please note the office will be closed on July 1.
- Late entries can still be made 2 days after July 1, but must be done in our office and credit card will not be accepted, a \$50 fee per day is also assessed.

### **State Fair Entry**

State Fair Entries open on June 1.

Iowa State Fair Entries are due July 1, 11:59 pm.

### **Polk County Fair Book**

The fair book has been updated and is live at [polkcountyfairiowa.com](http://polkcountyfairiowa.com).

We have some new livestock classes and building exhibit classes please check the fairbook for full details.



**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## **Entry Tags**

Entry tags will be printed by the Extension Office with the specific info that you entered in Fair Entry. Tags will be mailed the week following July 1. If you plan to make changes to your building exhibits after you have entered, please let us know as soon as possible to be able to print new tags. Please use detailed descriptions when registering.

## **Livestock Health Papers**

Individual Certificates of Veterinary Inspection will be required on livestock exhibited (including Open Class animals) at a county 4-H/FFA fair, and must be inspected when unloaded or shortly thereafter by a livestock superintendents. Superintendents will require health certificates at check-in time or the animal will be removed from the fair grounds. Each show must have an official veterinarian. Health Certificates must be issued within 30 days (14 days for sheep and 7 days for swine) of the county fair.

Dogs, Cats and pets Must have a current rabies certificate. Poultry and birds must be Pullorum-Typhoid test within 90 days of exhibition. Birds must also be free of lice and mites at fair.

## **9th Annual Clover Dash 5k**

Please join us for the 8th Annual Polk County Clover Dash 5K on July 16, 8:30 am at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. This race is in memory of former County Youth Coordinator, Joy Niklasen.

All 4-Her's, Clover Kids, families and friends are invited to participate as a runner in the 5K or as a volunteer. All proceeds go to Polk County 4-H youth activities.

[Registration](#) for runners and volunteers is now open.

For updates, follow us on Instagram: @polkcountycloverdash

And on Facebook: @polkcountycloverdash5K

## **How To Prepare Youth For The Fair**

The Iowa State 4-H Office has been putting together a video series to help staff with various topics. The following videos are excellent resources for leaders and/or parents to help youth come up with projects and how to prepare them for the fair. [Video Part 1](#) and [Video Part 2](#)

## **We Need Youth Runners!**

We are looking for YOU to help at the Polk County Fair! We're searching for 4-H members to serve as Youth Runners on Saturday, July 15. Runners will help keep judges hydrated, assist 4-H staff, run exhibits to booths, and help set up when and where needed. Our busiest time is 2 pm and after. Great way to get some Silver Cord Hours! Sign up here and select Youth Runner:

<https://forms.gle/1PDVRswpXTTed1SR6>



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## **County Fair Volunteers**

We need adult volunteers for Exhibit Building Judging Day and the Communication Event. We are searching for adults to serve in a variety of capacities.

Volunteering will take place in the 4-H Building on the Iowa State Fairgrounds; parking is free and plentiful. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers for Judging Day and the Communications Event.

Please complete this google form to volunteer: <https://forms.gle/Nb3jzLJ4Mu2wVv7RA>

## **Livestock Skill-A-Thon**

Back for 2023 is the Livestock Skill-A-Thon. What is a Skill-A-Thon? It is an event to test a youth's knowledge of livestock in general. The event will be made up of 10 stations testing knowledge in varying livestock/animal species. Each station will include photos or diagrams of things to identify as well as a word bank for possible answers. Species will include: horse, sheep, swine, meat goat, dairy goat, dog, poultry, rabbit, cattle and pet stock. Potential topics are: breeds, tack, by products, body parts, diseases, methods of ID and meat cuts.

The Skill-A-Thon will take place starting Thursday, July 20 at 9 am. Youth must be registered at this time. This contest is open to youth K-12th grade, broken into the following age categories: Pee-Wee (K-3), Junior (4-6), Intermediate (7-8), Senior (9-12). Youth will have the ability to compete in teams of 3 or individually. Teams will work individually at each station.

Prizes will be awarded to the top team and top individuals in each age category and ribbons to the top ten. Contact Marci with questions.

## **Clover Kids at the Fair**

Clover Kids can enter in the Polk County Fair and take projects (you pay one entry fee but take multiple projects) on Conference Judging Day, Saturday, July 16. Projects include crafts you made throughout the year and/or an exhibit you created specifically for the fair. In previous years, Clover Kids have shown judges: lego projects, homemade jewelry, baked goods, a coloring page, etc. The judging process is a higher level show-and-tell; ALL exhibits that Clover Kids bring will be judged at one time.

- Bucket of Flowers is just that the youth plant and care for a container of flowers,
- Educational presentation is when the youth give a 5-minute or less speech teaching the judge(s) and the audience how to do something.

Clover Kids show animals in Open Class. Please read those sections in the fair book and connect with Marci Vinsand or the animal superintendent if you have any questions about livestock/animals. Please read the Clover Kid/Open Class sections in the fair book: <http://polkcountyfairiowa.com/>



**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach

# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## ATTENTION: LEADERS!

*Information on trainings, volunteer resources, and more.*

### ***Leader Turnover and Volunteer Training***

If your club is experiencing leader turnover or welcoming new leaders to assist the club, please be sure to follow the **required** onboarding process. Clubs that fail to follow the process below will be placed in provisional status. Contact Megan as soon as there are new and/or additional leaders.

New volunteers must:

- Complete and successfully pass background check
- Meet with Megan for a volunteer interview
- Watch volunteer training videos in 4-H online
- Attend new volunteer training.

Returning leaders and volunteers must still complete volunteer training on 4-H Online. This includes the required Civil Rights Training.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach



# POLK COUNTY 4-H CLOVER POWER

1625 Adventureland Drive, Suite A • Altoona, Iowa 50009 • 515-957-5760 • May 2023 Issue

## 2023 CALENDAR

### June

7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
17 King and Queen Candidate Interviews  
21 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
24 Poultry Testing 8:00 am – 10:00 am

4 Office Closed  
5 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm  
6 Poultry Testing 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
8 Clothing Event  
12 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
15-21 Polk County Fair

### July

1 Polk County & Iowa State Fair Entries Due to Extension Office

### August

10-20 Iowa State Fair

*Find the full calendar in an easily accessible document [here!](#)*

## CONTACT

*If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Polk County 4-H staff!*

### Megan Freel

County Youth Coordinator  
[meganmae@iastate.edu](mailto:meganmae@iastate.edu)  
515-957-5763

### Marci Vinsand

County Youth Coordinator  
[vinsand@iastate.edu](mailto:vinsand@iastate.edu)  
515-957-5770

### Virginia Atwell

4-H and Family Life Educator  
[vatwell@iastate.edu](mailto:vatwell@iastate.edu)  
515-957-5783

## ABOUT US

ISU Extension and Outreach, Polk County offers research-based youth development programs aimed at preparing young people for the future. Polk County 4-H and its programs empower youth to reach their full potential through caring youth-adult partnerships, hands-on skill-building projects, and meaningful leadership opportunities. Visit the [Polk County 4-H website](#) to learn more.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach