I recently conducted two ZOOM web conferences for 4-H leaders and club treasurers. The ZOOM was widely attended. I was encouraged at the level of thoughtful questions and understanding during this time of transition of our 4-H club accounts. Thank you for your continued support for our 4-H program here in Shelby County.

As we continue to make plans for the upcoming year, we focus on the four basic youth needs as outlined in the 4-H Equation: Belonging, Mastery, Independence and Generosity. When we keep those needs in mind, the rest seems to all fall into place.

Mary Taggs
MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENTS

The 4-H Committee recently updated the membership agreement for Shelby County 4-H’ers. Club leaders received the printed membership agreements with their club awards packet at Awards Festival on Nov. 11th. Membership Agreements are only for 4-12 4-H’ers. There are a few changes:

1. Member re-enrollment will end Dec. 1st. Late re-enrollments will be assessed a late fee of $10/member.
2. New member enrollment deadline: April 1st.
3. Sheep, goat and swine exhibitors will be required to attend one county workshop. (along with beef and rabbits—dog and horse requirements remain unchanged)
4. YQCA certification deadline is May 15th.

AGOVATION

What are your plans for this summer? How about being part of a team to work on solutions to a problem people who work with agriculture are needing help with? There is a new contest available for 4-H members (grades 4-11) to participate in this year called Agovation. Teams of 3-5 members consider a problem involving animals, lifestyle, the economy, food, fiber and energy, the environment or technology of agriculture and develop a project with an adult mentor for how to work with this problem.

Of course, there are opportunities to share your project and win recognition and scholarships. The first step is to let Paulette Madson at pmadson@iastate.edu know that you are interested in learning more about this contest. She will help you develop a team, identify a problem, find a mentor and put together your presentation.

Want to see an example of what this program looks like? Visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOsFhrXFscQ&feature=youtu.be to see one example from Minnesota’s similar Science in Ag program!

The nice part is, you could use this as a static entry at the fair, and give it as an educational presentation! It is a win-win opportunity. Please let Paulette know by January 24th if you are interested!
DUPONT PIONEER GRANTS

The objective of these grants is to stimulate local 4-H clubs to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing “seed money” needed to make the projects successful. Contact Mary for details. Deadline for the application is January 30th.

LIVESTOCK WORKSHOPS

The required beef workshop will be held Thursday, January 17th from 7-8PM. The required swine workshop will be held Tuesday, March 5th from 7-8:30PM. Both workshops will be held at the Extension office and are required for all 4-H beef/swine exhibitors. Please RSVP to Paulette at pmadson@iastate.edu. This does not apply to Clover Kids.

CLOVER KIDS

Clover Kids are ANY enrolled member in grades K-3, regardless if they are a member of a Clover Kids club or a traditional community club. In Shelby County we call 3rd graders that belong to traditional community clubs “Discovery Members”. These “Discovery Members” are still guided by Clover Kids rules.

2018-19 will be the last year that 3rd graders will be allowed to join traditional community clubs. In 2019-20, all members grades K-3 will join Clover Kids clubs only.

CLOVER KIDS/JUNIOR 4-H’er BOWLING

The County Council is sponsoring a Clover Kids and Junior 4-H’er bowling day on Sat. Jan. 19th from 1-2:30pm at Cyclone Lanes in Harlan. Members may invite ONE friend to join them. Friends MUST complete and return a 4-H permission form to the Extension office prior to Jan. 19th. Please RSVP to Mary at mtaggs@iastate.edu OR 755-3104 by Jan. 15th.

STATE 4-H RECOGNITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Senior 4-H’ers are eligible to apply for State 4-H awards, National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Conference, State Council, Shooting Sports Ambassador AND 4-H Reporters. Applications are available at: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/recognition-opportunities. The process has changed for this year, if you have any questions please contact Mary at the Extension office.

Graduating Seniors: 4-H Scholarships are available at: https://www.iowa4hfoundation.org/en/funding_for_4hers/scholarships/
YQCA: Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

**Who needs to have YQCA?** If you intend to show livestock at the county fair or state fair in 2019 you are required to take YQCA. What is considered livestock? Beef, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits and chickens. What is NOT livestock? Dogs, cats, horses and small pets.

CLOVER KIDS are NOT required to take YQCA.

If you have ANY questions, please ask your club leader or contact Paulette at the Extension Office, 755-3104 or pmadson@iastate.edu

1. Your current FSQA testing will remain effective until the expiration date.

2. Face-to-face YQCA trainings will be held in Shelby County on Friday, Dec. 28th 9-10:30 and Monday, March 26th 6:30-8PM. Cost of Face to Face trainings is $3, you must enroll PRIOR to attending at https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login log in using your 4-H online user name and password. We have received a grant from LANDUS to off—set the cost of face to face trainings. Please contact Paulette to receive your coupon code before you register. Coupon codes are limited, so don’t delay.

3. Online Modules (like last year) are also available for a cost of $12. Go to https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login to log in, using your 4-H online user name and password. These coupon codes have all been spoken for by 4-H’ers.