



THE CLOVER NETWORK
Washington County 4-H Newsletter

February 2012

Volume 24, No. 3

Camp Leadership Workshop – Advanced

Camp Leadership Workshop – Advanced (formerly Advanced Camp Counselor Training) for ages 14 to 19 is set for April 20-21 at Arkansas 4-H Center, Ferndale.

This training is for those interested in adding to their camp leadership skills. Theme for 2012 is “Teaching in the Outdoors”. Cost is \$90. You must register at 4-H Online by February 8.

2012 Spring Break Trip

It’s time for the 2012 Spring Break Beef trip. This year we will leave the Extension office on Monday, March 19 at 4:30. We’ll travel to our overnight accommodations. On Tuesday, March 20, we will travel to the Southwest Research Center at Hope, Ark. for the cow/calf field day and tour of the research center. Still working on plans for the later part of the day; it’ll be cool, though. Then we will travel back to the lodging. On Wednesday, March 21 we will have stops at the Arkansas Cattleman’s Association, Arkansas Beef Council and Arkansas Farm Bureau, the Cooperative Extension Service state headquarters and the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission. We should return home about 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Cost will depend on the number participating. Should just be the cost of your meals for those days. Must be 14 years old or over.

You must register with Johnny by Friday, February 10 if you plan to attend.

2012 4-H Event Changes

Note: There are MANY changes with 4-H events. Several rules for events have been revised for 2012. Please follow the rules on the site listed below, or request a copy of the rules ahead of the event. http://www.kidsarus.org/go4it/Activities_Events/event_packet/ Scroll down to 4-H O-Rama Packet 2012.

Indoor Activity Day

Saturday, February 11, at Pauline Whitaker 10:00 – noon (registration is at 9:45). You must be there by 10:00 a.m. to compete in any of the following events: Crop Seed ID, Entomology ID, Entomology Collection (bring one if you have one) Forestry ID, Ornamental Horticulture ID and Wildlife ID.

Saturday, February 11 at Pauline Whitaker. For families that are competing in both indoor activity day and talks and demonstrations events, you may either bring your lunch or go get your lunch from a location of your choice.

Talks and Demonstrations Day

Saturday, February 11, Pauline Whitaker, 1:00 p.m. (registration at 12:45 p.m.) This will happen in several rooms. Register for the event by Wednesday, February 8, giving your name, 4-H club, 4-H age as of January 1, title of the talk, and its category.

Many events have specific guidelines that must be followed and may have been revised for 2012. Please consult the current rules BEFORE preparing the talk/demonstration. Event categories include agribusiness public speaking, animal science, citizenship,

consumer economics, entomology talk, food fair, health, horse, human development, pet care, public speaking, safety, technology showcase, and veterinary science.

PowerPoint with tips for all talks and demonstrations can be found online at

http://www.aragriculture.org/livestock/horses/educational_activities/giving_effective_presentation.pdf.

4-H Technology Projects

There are several technology related opportunities that are coming up soon. There will be a brief meeting immediately after the awards program for Talks and Demonstrations at Pauline Whitaker on February 11. Please contact Anna if you will not be able to attend but are interested.

4-H Online Incentive Recognition

All 4-H members who have submitted their completed enrollment card to the extension office by February 14 **and** completed the initial online enrollment, or updated their online profile by February 14, will receive recognition at the 4-H Achievement Banquet on March 3.

If your information was in 4-H Online last year or you participated in any event beyond the county level, PLEASE do not create a profile again. You only need to log into your existing profile and update the information, indicating you want to be in 4-H again this year. The website address is:

<https://arkansas.4honline.com>.

If you need help or need access to a computer, please contact Anna or Denise at the extension office, 479-444-1755, and we will help you or schedule a time for you to come to the office and complete the enrollment. This can also be done through different wireless devices with Internet access or at a library.

Beekeeping Essay Contest

The Beekeeping Essay Contest is open to active 4-H members 9-19 years of age. Participants should write a short story with the topic “The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in my Community”. State winners will go on to compete in national contest. Complete rules are available online at <http://honeybeepreservation.org/2011/06/2012-essay-contest-topic>.

Submit your entry to Dr. Glenn Studebaker at gstudebaker@uaex.edu by February 15. Note: for 2012, only essays submitted electronically will be accepted.

Teen Star Program

The Arkansas 4-H Teen Star Program is for any Arkansas 4-H member ages 15-18 as of January 1 who has outstanding achievement in the areas of 4-H projects and activities, leadership and community service. The awards ceremony is conducted at the Teen Leader Conference at the 4-H Center. Each member receiving this recognition will receive a certificate and pin, then becomes eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship once they become a high school senior. Members may apply for the Arkansas 4-H Ambassador application during the same year.

Submit application (FY4H-139) to the Extension Office by February 16.

High Adventure Program

The High Adventure trip is an extended canoeing/camping trip for teens and adult advisors. Trip is to Boundary Waters, Ely, Minn., on July 29 – August 5. Also requires trainings at the 4-H Center for Parent/Camper Rally on March 3 and the Shakedown Training on March 30 – April 1.

Ages for 4-H members are 13-19; total cost is \$600. Online registration is due February 16.

4-H Horse Program Training

Three trainings for the 4-H Horse Program will be held in Washington County. These sessions are open to anyone, but primarily geared towards 4-H parents and 4-H volunteer leaders. Older 4-H members are also welcome to attend the trainings. There is no cost to attend. Materials are possible through a grant from Farm Credit. Dates are February 16 and 23, 6:30 p.m. at the extension office; and March 1, 6:30 p.m. at Pauline Whitaker for the riding portion of the training.

Topics that will be covered include horse safety, horsemanship, educational contest team training, equipment safety, horse project management, horse show rules and opportunities, volunteer management, and laws and liability.

Banquet & Fun ‘N’ Fashion Committee Meeting

Banquet and Fun ‘N’ Fashion Committee will meet February 20, 7:00 p.m., at the extension office. All committee members need to bring white holiday and rope lights that you have to this meeting. Also bring any decorations that you already have with stars, plus fabric or other items that are black, gold, silver, red or green (4-H green).

4-H County Achievement Banquet

This year’s achievement banquet will be held on Saturday, March 3 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. The 2012 theme is “4-H: An Evening of Stars.” Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. All 4-H families, volunteers and adult leaders are invited to attend.

All 4-H members that submitted a Journal will receive information regarding their complimentary ticket, and they will be receiving recognition at the banquet. Additional tickets for parents and guests can be purchased for \$5 each at the extension office, February 15 – February 29, by 4:30 p.m.

Dress for the banquet will be nice clothes (slacks, skirts or dresses). All outfits **must** meet the 4-H dress code. Clothing can be as dressy as desired.

As part of the celebration, please share photos of your club members and activities by providing photos via flash drive or CD to Anna Goff by February 15.

Cookbooks and school partner cards will be available for purchase at the banquet.

Arkansas 4-H Ambassador Program

Arkansas 4-H Ambassadors are individuals who assist with 4-H promotion at the state and county levels. Ambassadors can be utilized in the following ways: assist with statewide 4-H programs, assist with county programs as requested, promote Arkansas 4-H, and represent 4-H at various activities, fairs, award programs and other events.

In order to qualify to apply to become a state 4-H officer, a member must be an Arkansas 4-H Ambassador for one year and has met the re-certification requirements for the current year.

To apply, a 4-H member must be a Teen Star. Applicants can apply for Teen Star during the same year. If selected as a Teen Star, they will interview for Ambassador. The interview process will be during the Teen Leader Conference at Ferndale. Application (FY4-H-657) is due by February 22.

2012 Arkansas State 4-H Camps

The following camps must use the 4-H Online registration system. The Washington County 4-H Foundation will pay half of the registration fee if the online registration is completed by the county deadline and guidelines are met.

Equine Camp – Western Pleasure, ages 12-18, on March 19-22. This camp is for those who want to improve their equine experience. You must bring your own horse. Fee is \$385, and instruction will be by the state equine specialist. Online registration is to be completed by February 22.

Junior Camp – ages 9-12, 2012 theme is Go Outside and Play; either July 9-11 or July 16-18 (Washington County dates to be determined by county office, due to adult chaperone requirements.) Online registration is to be completed by May 22, and the total fee is \$165 per person.

Adventure and Challenge camp – ages 13-15, 2012 theme is Go Outside and Play; either July 9-11 or July 16-18 (Washington County dates to be determined by county office, due to adult chaperone requirements). This camp focuses on teambuilding and conquering challenges. Ropes course is part of the camp. Registration is to be completed by May 22, and the total fee is \$165 per person.

Pullet Project

Raising chicks through the 4-H poultry program has been one of the favorite livestock projects of 4-H members. Please read this carefully, as we have major changes in the poultry chain project this year. Chicks are no longer free. You can sign-up to receive up to 20 golden sex link chicks for \$25 and/or 25 white leghorn chicks for \$20. Roosters of either type may be ordered at an additional cost of 30 cents each. Pullets you take to the fair will no longer be sold at the fair. You will take them home with you after the fair. Only three pullets will be exhibited at the fair; not four as in the past. You are responsible for providing adequate shelter, care and for pre-registering the pen of three pullets in the Washington County Fair. We anticipate the chicks to arrive the first week in April. If you need to make pen improvements, begin now so everything will be in place on the day you receive your day-old chicks.

Register for your pullets by submitting your registration fee to the county extension office by Friday, February 24, 4:30 p.m.

County 4-H Honor Club Report

Many clubs have met the guidelines to earn the County Honor Club Award. This is a great opportunity for your members to see the results of their hard work all year. This report form is due by February 24. The form can be found online at

http://www.kidsarus.org/go4it/Activities_Events/event_packet/awards_recognition/county_honor_club.pdf, or a copy of the form can be requested.

Clubs that receive the County 4-H Honor Club Award will be eligible to apply for the state 4-H Honor Club Award, which will be due June 1.

BBQ, Breads, Dairy and Outdoor Activity Day

BBQ, Breads, Dairy and Outdoor Activity Day is Saturday, March 17, 8:30 a.m. at the extension office. We request all parent/guardians to stay at the location with 4-H members for these events. Awards are presented after all events are finished. As in the past, everyone is invited to sample the wonderful breads and dairy dishes immediately after the awards are presented.

Poultry BBQ Contest – (Only Junior and Senior 4-H members). Pre-register with extension office by Thursday, March 8. These individuals need to arrive by 8:30 a.m. Contestants will be provided two halves of a split broiler to barbecue and will turn in the half they think is better. Juniors and Seniors compete against each other in this activity. The top five scoring contestants can represent the county April 21 at the district contest in Fayetteville. Instructions can be picked up or found online at http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDO300.pdf.

Breads and Dairy Foods Contests – Finished products will be accepted inside the extension office from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Please do not have the 4-H member's name on the recipe that is submitted with the finished product. Numbers are assigned to each item at check-in. These contests do not qualify you for district competition. Entries can be left after check-in. Blank score sheets can be requested from the extension office.

Breads – Cloverbuds, Juniors, and Seniors may enter in the following categories – quick bread or yeast bread. Only Cloverbuds will be allowed to use a mix as an ingredient in their recipe.

Dairy Foods – You may enter a dish in either or both: main dish and/or party ideas. Judging is based on the variety of milk and dairy products, originality, clearness and accuracy, availability of ingredients, and serving ideas. State participants must be in the 4th –12th grades, and the winning recipe in each category is sent to the state contest. 4-H members below the 4th grade may enter but will only receive participation recognition.

Outdoor Activity Day – Events are bicycle, baitcasting and game fish ID, gun safety and BB shooting, and reel into sportfishing. Events will begin at 8:30 a.m. Members pre-registered for the BBQ contest will compete first, before they begin the BBQ contest.

Arbor Day

Monday, March 19, meet at the extension office at 3:30 p.m. and directions will be given for a short drive to the Arbor Day activities. After we finish, there will be events at the extension office that will lead up to the council meeting at 6:00. Bring your potluck to share.

County 4-H Council

Monday, March 19, 6:00 p.m. at the extension office, potluck dinner. Several upcoming events will be discussed.

Parent and Adult Leaders Meeting

Monday, March 19, immediately following the county 4-H council meeting, we will discuss and vote on the enclosed bylaws changes, the petting zoo for the 2012 fair and other business on the agenda.

Teen Leader Conference

The Arkansas Teen Leader Conference, a three-day conference at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center, June 13-15, is for 4-H members 14-19 years of age. Each year, the conference focuses on specific topics and helps to prepare teens for leadership

responsibilities in their local clubs and counties. The Teen Star and Hall of Fame induction is conducted during this conference.

The cost of this program is \$200, of which the Washington County 4-H Foundation will pay half if your registration via 4-H Online is completed by March 20. This is an event you don't want to miss!

Arkansas 4-H Forestry Contest

This contest is a competitive event designed to help 4-H members develop their knowledge of and skills in forestry and natural resources management. Teams from each county will compete in five forestry events. The contest will be held in Hope on May 12. Registration is due March 20.

Forestry and Wildlife Camp Counselor Training

Eight 4-H youth, ages 16-19, will be selected to attend Forestry and Wildlife Camp Counselor Training. The training will start at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 28 prior to camp. There is no charge; however, you need to turn in your application to the extension office by March 20.

Innovative Program Grant

Innovative program grants are awarded to clubs for the purpose of providing financial support for projects (educational or community service). Clubs can receive up to \$200 per year. Priority is given to educational programs and community service projects that teach youth skills and/or provide a service to the community.

These grant applications need to include a statement of need, problem or concern, the goals of the project and the methods of solving the problem. You must include how you will measure the success of your project. If you would like to apply for one of these and need help, contact the extension office.

Applications must be in by March 20.

State 4-H Hall of Fame

The Arkansas 4-H Hall of Fame originated to recognize truly outstanding 4-H Teen Stars who have achieved at the highest level and who have contributed to making Arkansas 4-H a dynamic and well-known organization.

To be considered for the 4-H Hall of Fame, a 4-H member must 1) Be an Arkansas 4-H Teen Star; 2) Be at least a high school senior at the time of nomination; 3) Be an active 4-H member who has achieved at the highest level in the club, county and state; 4) Be a 4-H member who has used personal 4-H accomplishments to help others achieve; 5) Be a 4-H member who has provided outstanding leadership to 4-H and made significant contributions to the 4-H program at club, county, and state level; 6) Be a 4-H member who has shown a strong commitment to 4-H; 7) Be a 4-H member who has never been found in violation of the Arkansas 4-H Code of Conduct by the review board; 8.) Be nominated by a county extension faculty member using the “Arkansas 4-H Hall of Fame Nomination Form”, (FY4-H-140).

Applications are due in the extension office by March 20.

Pumpkin and Watermelon Contest

It’s time again to sign up for the giant pumpkin and watermelon contests. There is a \$1.50 fee for each participant for each contest, to cover the cost of seed.

Registration and fees are due in the Extension office by March 22.

Fun ‘N’ Fashion

Call the extension office by Thursday, March 22 to sign up for this year’s Fun ‘N’ Fashion events. It will be held on Saturday, March 31 at the new Happy Hollow Elementary School in Fayetteville. Decorations start at 8:00 a.m., and participants are welcome to arrive at 8:20. Arrive by 8:45, and events will begin at 9:00, and will finish around noon.

The address is 2175 E. Peppervine Drive, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. If you are traveling south on Crossover Road (Hwy 265) going towards Huntsville Road (Hwy 16), Peppervine Drive will be right after the Cliffs Apartments, before you get to Huntsville Road (Hwy 16). Within the past year, this road was extended east to connect to Hwy 265.

New this year – Choose one purchased garment for the Fashion Revue event, either casual or dressy.

The categories for Fashion Revue are constructed dressy, constructed casual, purchased dressy, and purchased casual. Categories for the performing arts are dance, instrumental and vocal. Please refer to the guidelines for the events available at http://www.kidsarus.org/go4it/Activities_Events/event_packet/; scroll down to 4-H O-Rama Packet 2012.

State Camp Counselor Application

All Senior 4-H members over the age of 14 interested in volunteering at one of the state camps must apply through 4-H Online by March 23.

State camp counselor training is June 1-2. There is no fee for state camp counselors.

Northwest Arkansas District Junior Spring Livestock and Poultry Show

The Northwest Arkansas District Junior Spring Livestock and Poultry Show will be Saturday, April 14 at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Fayetteville. Livestock entries must be received by April 2 to avoid late fees. Books and entry forms will be available Thursday, February 23 at the extension office and online by March 1.

Be sure to check health requirements so your animals will be eligible to show. Call Ashley Kyle Wallis at 799-8802 or Barbara Lewis (5:00 – 7:00 p.m.) at 530-4924 to set up an appointment to have your poultry tested for Pullorum-Typhoid. There is a charge of \$1.15 per bird to cover cost of supplies.

Calf Scramble

The Ozark Cattlemen's Association will once again sponsor a calf scramble at the Spring Show in Fayetteville. The contest will be 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 14.

The contest is open to Washington County 4-H and FFA members who have not yet completed the 10th grade. A release form signed by the parents is required to participate, and those winning heifers will be obligated to keep and show the heifer for the next two years at the county fair. Entries are requested by Monday, April 9.

Wildlife Habitat Contest

Wildlife Habitat Contest will be April 27 in Central Arkansas for ages 9-19. Cost is \$12; apply by April 3 at 4-H Online.

4-H Operation Military Kids Camp

4-H members ages 9-12 with family members in the military are eligible for a camp May 4-6 at Mount Sequoyah in Fayetteville. Cost is only \$10 for the T-shirt. Registration is due online by April 5.

4-H members ages 13-18 with family members in the military are eligible for a Movie and Arts Camp held June 2-6. Registration is due online by May 1.

All other costs are paid by a grant as part of the national partnership between 4-H and the Department of Defense. Contact Anna if you need additional information.

Spring 4-H Parent and Volunteer Leaders Forum

The 2012 Spring Forum is held on April 13-14 at Ferndale. 4-H parents, volunteer leaders and members are encouraged to attend. Last year, registration started at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, and events finished at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

There are several workshops, speakers, activities and ways to learn new ideas by networking with others throughout the state. Applications will be available at the extension office, and registration will be due in the later part of March.

Ross Photography Contest

Categories are color living, color non-living, black and white living, and black and white non-living. (Living category is intended for people and animals.) All scenes or subjects must be in Arkansas and have been taken during the current contest year. An 8"x10" print is required for judging and is to be submitted to the county extension office by April 17 with a CD or negative. Cash prizes are awarded to state winners, and their photos are exhibited at the 4-H Center and other locations. Call Anna for more information.

Poster Art Contest

The contest is open to all 4-H members ages 9-19. You can go with an open theme; create a poster and theme to go with it.

Posters should be 14"x22" in dimension and may be horizontal or vertical. Posters may be any medium art: watercolor, ink, crayon, acrylic, charcoal, oils or collage. They cannot contain any copyrighted material, such as cartoon characters, and cannot have any three-dimensional items on them. The 4-H member's name, age, county, social security number, full address and brief interpretation of art work must be affixed to the back of the poster in the upper left-hand corner. Posters are due April 17 in the extension office.

Farm Friends

Our annual Farm Friends program will be held Thursday, April 26 at the Whitaker Arena. We always need plenty of helpers and animals. Please contact Johnny at the extension office if you would be willing to help with this program.

Petting Zoo

Plans are underway for the 2012 Petting Zoo. Starting this year, in order for your club members or leaders to receive reimbursement, assistance is required with one of the fundraisers. Your help is needed in the following ways:

Needed for the entire county fair: a covered stock trailer with divider; contact Anna at the extension office as soon as possible. Animals are needed for the petting zoo; start thinking and more details will be sent soon. Party favors such as pencils, bracelets and other items given as awards for the games at the petting zoo (these could be purchased after a holiday). Bring these items to the extension office before July 6.

To sign up your club or family for a shift to work the petting zoo, either email Tracy Roebke at troebke@aaabm.com or text (not call) 790-2600. More info will be in the next mailing. Applications for clubs to indicate if they want to set up or clean up for the petting zoo will be due May 15 of this year.

School Partners Cards

Discount cards expire December 31, 2012 and are available for \$10 each. They are for Arkansas and other states, and can be purchased or sold by individuals or clubs. This is a fundraiser for the County Parent and Adult Leaders Association to support programs in the county. Contact Anna or Mary Crumley to purchase or check out cards to sell.

State 4-H Officer Applications State 4-H Ambassador Recertification

These forms are due in the County Extension Office by April 24. Please visit with Anna as soon as possible to make sure all parts are completed correctly.

We will miss you!



Many 4-H families have worked with one of our county extension agents, Catherine Koch. She is retiring from extension with more than 36 years of service. We thank her for her dedication and will all miss having her as part of our team!



Special Thanks!

Special Thanks to the awesome 4-H members that taught the workshops and everyone that attended this year's Tips 'N' Techniques Workshop. If you were not able to attend but would like a packet of information, please contact Anna Goff.

Cookbooks Are Here!

Cookbooks are \$15 each and available to be picked up at the Extension Office. This is a fund raiser for the Washington County 4-H Foundation. Submit the name of your club when you purchase books, in order to receive credit.

State Community Service Project

4-H members can donate items for the auction to be held at the Spring Forum in Ferndale. This is a great opportunity to help raise money for scholarships that are awarded to 4-H members. Items need dropped off at the Extension Office by April 10. They can be canned items, 4-H decorated things, crafts, or donations from businesses.