



SALINE COUNTY GREEN & WHITE NEWS

February 2008

SALINE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

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No one claimed their \$5 last month! Look carefully for your birthday.

We're trying something new this month with the newsletters. We are sending your newsletter hard copies to your 4-H leaders and they will pass them out at your meetings. The newsletters are posted on our website at <http://www.uaex.edu/saline/newsletters> and are there by the 5th of each month. So, you can always go there to see what is going on during the month. If you truly love getting your newsletter via snail mail, we will be glad to send you a hard copy; simply call us and let us know. We will also be emailing everyone a copy at the first of the month, so if we do not have your email, please call us with it or email me at afreel@uaex.edu and let me know. This will save us so much paper, postage and time! Thank you for your support!

New 4-H Club Forming

SOAR-Seeking Outdoor Adventure and Recreation - This club will meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at the armory building at the fairgrounds. That is the 2nd building on the right as you drive into the fairgrounds. The first meeting will be February 14 at 6:30 p.m. This club is a club that you can attend in addition to a traditional 4-H club or just as a project area club. You will be sure to have a lot of fun though as you learn about the great outdoors through activities such as camping, hiking, biking, ATV safety, etc.... For more info, contact Sharon Sloan (501) 594-5257.

4-H Livestock Club

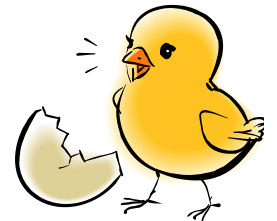
The livestock club has new leaders who will concentrate on giving fun educational meetings on the 1st Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds. They will include how to take care of lots of different livestock from rabbits to chickens to grooming clinics on steers. On February 5, a poultry specialist will be there from the state office to discuss the poultry chain. Come join the fun each month!

Shooting Sports Team

If you would like to learn how to shoot a gun and learn archery compass and orienteering, to prepare for competitions, join the Saline County 4-H Shooting Sports Club. For more information, please call Ron here at the office. Practice begins very soon, so call today if you're interested!

Poultry Chain

The 4-H Foundation gives you 25 white chickens (or you pay 50 cents a bird for brown chickens) that you raise. We provide vaccinations for them along the way, but you are responsible for their food, water and shelter. You must also agree to bring back 3 birds to the county fair in September to be sold in the Livestock Auction. The money raised from the auction goes back into the program for the next year's project. *7-10-96*



It is time to place your order for the chicks. The White Leghorns were available for free. The Bovan Brown (sometimes called Cinnamon Queens or Golden Comet) are available for 50 cents each. Let me know if you want to participate in this project. You must be sure that you want to participate when you place the order!

Please call me if you have questions regarding this project. It is a lot of fun and a great learning experience. These birds lay wonderful eggs!

Beekeeping Essay Contest

This annual 4-H Essay Contest is sponsored by the American Beekeeping Federation and includes cash prizes at the state and national levels. The entries will be judged at the state level. The state winner will be forwarded to the American Beekeeping Federation, whose website you may check for the winning national entry at <http://www.abfnet.org/>. All entries must be submitted to our office by February 11 and state winners will be announced by the first working day of March.

The topic for the 2008 essay is "The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community." Essayists are encouraged to become familiar with honey bees' pollination activities and then survey their communities to see what examples they can find. Some of these will be obvious, i.e., apples on sale at the supermarket. Essayists should not overlook the benefit to farmers who are able to produce more or higher value crops as a result of pollination nor the benefits to the local population from the varied diet to which honey bee pollination contributes.

Horse Show by Freedom Reins

On March 29, the Freedom Reins 4-H Horse Club will be having an open horse show. Everyone is welcome to come and participate.

WHEP training session

Saline County 4-H WHEP training coach, Sharon Sloan, will meet with anyone interested in going to the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program contest. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25. For more details about this contest and the practice, please call Sharon at 501-594-5257.

Teen Leader Meeting

We will be having a Teen Leader Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds on Tuesday, February 26, 2008. If you are 12-19 and would like to come have a fun time with good friends while learning and serving your community, please come!

PALs

We will be having a Parent and Leader Meeting (PALs) at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds on Tuesday, February 26, 2008.

Agri Skills Day

Agri Skills Day is coming up on Saturday, **March 29** at the Saline County Fairgrounds **beginning at 9:00 a.m.**

Contests in BBQ chicken cooking, bicycling, bait casting, reel into sport fishing, as well as BB shooting will be offered. Kids can do any or all of the contests. Call us to let us know if you will be competing in the BBQ cooking contest so we can get the chickens. The top five winners in the BBQ contest go on to district at Ferndale.

New members don't be afraid to give this a try. Bring your bikes and go through the obstacle course. There is no need to bring fishing poles; we will provide those for the bait casting contest. If you need specific information to prepare for the contest, please call me—I'll be glad to send you the information. Or, it will be posted on our website soon at www.uaex.edu/saline. More details in next month's newsletter.

State 4-H Camps – due date March

It is time again to start signing up for 4-H camps!! The following camps are state camps at the 4-H Center. We always have lots of kids go and they love it!! Each of the following camps has a \$25 non-refundable fee that is due March 10. The remainder is due later. Please bring your \$25 deposit along with your desire to go camping by March 10.

Adventure & Challenge Camp I July 7 – 9, Ages 13 – 15, \$125 fee
Junior Camp II July 14 – 16, Ages 9 – 12, \$115 fee
Adventure & Challenge Camp II July 14 – 16, Ages 13 – 15, \$125 fee

Cloverbud Camp July 17 – 18, Ages 5 – 9, \$75 fee
Equine Camp July 14 – 17, Ages 12 – 18, \$300 fee

State Horse Conference

The 2008 4-H State 4-H Horse Conference is scheduled for March 7 and 8, at the 4-H Center. Session I will begin on Friday evening (7th) at 6:30 p.m. with the Individual Presentation, Team Presentation and Public Speaking Contest. Session II will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday (8th). Workshops planned will focus on feeding management with rising feed prices, general horse health, environmentally friendly horseback riding, new resources for horse knowledge, and horsemanship. Weather permitting; there will be live horse demonstrations. A horse training/horsemanship speaker has been contacted, but not confirmed. **No live horses allowed for demonstrations and talks.**

The registration fees for the clinic are due to the county office by February 25. **Please make your checks payable to Arkansas 4H Foundation and submit with registration.**

Friday Night Lodging & Conference.....\$45 per participant
 Saturday (Conference Only)\$30 per participant

Please email me for the rules for the Presentation and Public Speaking Contests. The winners in each division will represent Arkansas at the Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships in Lexington, Virginia in late July. There is no limit to the number of

contestants a county may enter; however, a contestant can enter only one division. The three categories are:

1. Team Presentation Contest (team will consist of two members)
2. Individual Presentation Contest
3. Public Speaking Contest

Teen Star Applications

Being a 4-H Teen Star is an honor. It is time to start filling out the forms. To be named an Arkansas 4-H Teen Star, a 4-H member:

- *Must be 15 years old as of January 1 of the current year and no more than 18 as of January 1 of the current year.*
- *Should have completed two years of work as a 4-H member.*
- *Should be an active 4-H member at the time of application.*

The application is a bit long, but worth it. Please call me and I'll send the form, or sit down with you and help you fill it out! Forms are due to me at the end of February.

Calendar of Events

February 11 – Beekeeping Essay due

February 18 – Deadline to order pullet chain chicks

February 26 – PALS meeting 6:30 p.m. – fairgrounds

February 26 – 4-H teen leaders meet 6:30 p.m. – fairgrounds

All meetings and activities announced in this newsletter are open to all youth between the ages of 5 and 19 without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or disability. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should notify the county Extension office as soon as possible prior to the activity.

Angela Freel
County Extension Agent – 4-H