



4-H Clover Connection

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October 2008

Each One – Reach One Centennial Style

Honoring. Celebrating. Envisioning. This is the theme for the centennial celebration of the Oklahoma 4-H Program.

Two of the goals of the Oklahoma 4-H Centennial Celebration are to increase membership and retention in 4-H and encourage a greater sense of commitment from current membership; and increase the number of adult volunteers trained to work with youth as project leaders, activity leaders and club leaders.

Envision this – a county 4-H program gaining 100 new members and 100 new volunteers in celebration of the Oklahoma 4-H Program's centennial and affirming our continued commitment to the lives of families in the state.

The Oklahoma 4-H Program turns 100 years old in 2009, but activities and celebrations already are taking place, said Karla Knoepfli, assistant Extension specialist, volunteer and leadership development.

“During the centennial celebration let's focus on growing the membership in our county program by one hundred,” Knoepfli said. “This goal can be accomplished through a simple process of one-on-one mentoring or ‘Each One – Reach One.’”

A 4-H mentor is a caring friend, a trusted 4-H member/volunteer/parent, someone who believes in youth development, a knowledgeable and experienced person who supports the 4-H principles and ideals and is a good role model.

To be a mentor is both an honor and a responsibility that requires an investment of time and energy devoted to the well-being of another. It is “on-the-job” training in leadership and citizenship requiring both learning and teaching on the part of the mentor.

As a mentor, you'll have many opportunities to enhance your own learning and self-awareness and make significant contributions to the growth of a new member/volunteer/family.

“As you proceed in the mentoring process, have realistic expectations of the relationship. Set clear, mutually determined goals and actively strive for success,” Knoepfli said. “Keep in mind that a mentor is a guide who encourages the protégé to seek answers and to become an effective problem solver.”

Mentors are people who:

- Are committed to high standards, have proven effectiveness, respect others' abilities, are spending time in shared learning, are advocates and supporters, are trustworthy, are effective communicators, are receptive to new ideas, are confident and affirming, have a positive attitude, are flexible and have commitment to ethical behavior.
- Understand it is a learning process as well as a teaching process.
- Have interpersonal, communication, creative problem-solving, conflict-management and self management skills, plus have an ability to establish priorities.
- Recognize the importance and commitment to one-to-one teaching as an effective method for nurturing and retaining new 4-H volunteer/parents/families/members.
- Offer suggestions, not solutions, and share wisdom and experience allowing the protégé to select suitable solutions without pressure or coercion.
- The mentor-protégé relationship is one of mutual empowerment.
- Tell, coach, support and empower the protégé.

4-H Achievement Program

The Blaine County 4-H Achievement Program will be held on Sunday, October 12th, 2:00 p.m. at the Blaine County Fairgrounds, Foley Building. County Officers are asked to arrive at 1:00 p.m. to assist in preparations for the program. If you turned in a 4-H Record book, you will be receiving awards at this program. All other 4-H members are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion.

4-H Teen Leaders

The Blaine County Teen Leaders met following the Swim Party and elected officers for the 2008-2009 year. Elected were:

President - Karson Henke
V. President - Bethany Syzemore
Secretary - James Syzemore
Treasurer - Hanna Driever
Reporter - Kristi Burghardt
Song & Game Leaders – Mason Howe, Catherine Westfahl, Kylie Kraft, Tory Pierce, Shreya Patel, and Aaron Schaefer.

4-H Booster Officers

The Blaine County 4-H Boosters/Volunteers met and elected the following adults as officers for the 2008-2009 program year:

President - Darrin Gambil
V. President - Valerie Garrett
Secretary - Dixiene Howerton
Treasurer - Randy Garrett

The leaders will meet at 6:00p.m. on the evening November 15th for a short Booster meeting at the Okeene School Lounge, just before Share-the-Fun begins.

Share-The-Fun

Blaine County Share-the-Fun has been set for Saturday, November 15th at the Okeene High School Auditorium. Program will begin at 7:00 p.m. County 4-H Officers need to be present by 6:00 p.m. to assist with lighting, audio, etc.



Please review the enclosed entry form with performance guidelines. You may enter in two different acts for the evening.

Forms are due to the Extension Office by Wednesday, November 12th, if you wish to be listed in the program!

Northwest District Leadership Conference

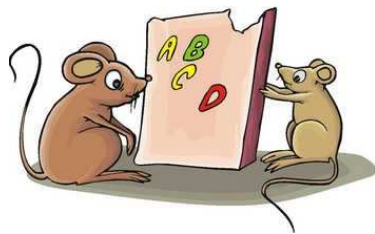
Nine 4-H members from Blaine County will be attending the District Leadership Conference in Enid, October 15-17, 2008. Attending will be Alvin Woodruff, Joy Rhodes, Kristi Burghardt, Karson Henke, James Syzemore, Bethany Syzemore, Carlyn Magness, James Robertson, Michelle Helm, Alexa Ivins, and Reylee Goodwin.

American Farmers & Ranchers Speech Contest

4-H members are invited to participate in the AF&R Speech Contest to be held Thursday, November 6th at Fairview Middle School. You must prepare a speech about the AFR Organization, a Student Organization, Natural Resources, Agribusiness or Agriscience. Speeches should run from 2- 4 minutes for Novices (grades 4-6) and 4-6 minutes for the Junior Division (grades 7-8), Intermediate (grades 9-10) or Senior (grades 11-12). Novice division is limited to speeches about the AFR Organization.

Entry forms are available at the Extension Office and must be submitted by November 1st. The State contest will be held December 6th at Stillwater.

Watonga Cheese Festival Food Contest



The Cheese Festival will be held this year on October 10 & 11, 2008. The Junior Food Contest will be held and conducted at Watonga City Hall on Friday, October 10th. Entry forms can be obtained at the Extension Office or on our web-site at <http://oces.okstate.edu/blaine>. Click on Family & Consumer Sciences and then on 2008 Watonga Cheese Food Contest File”.

Classes that can be entered: Main Dish, Vegetables, Breads, Desserts, Cheese Snack, and Salads & Salad Dressing.

Junior entries can be submitted on Friday, October 10th, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. Judging begins at 10:00 a.m.

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OKLAHOMA 4-H



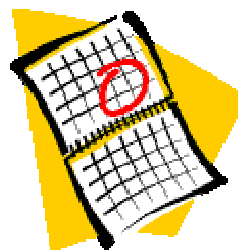
Fall Shooting Sports

You must be 10 years old and have completed the Hunters Education Course in order to participate.

Shooting sports

Saturday, October 18th
Northwest District Shoot at Quail Club, Enid

Saturday, October 25th
State Trap Shoot at El Reno, OK



Calendar of Events

- 10/10 & 11 - Watonga Cheese Festival
- 10/11 - Jr. Cheese Festival Food Contest
- 10/12 - Achievement Program, Watonga
- 10/15-17 - NW District Leadership Conf., Enid
- 10/18 - NW District Shoot, Enid
- 10/25 - State Trap Shoot, El Reno
- 10/27 - Sheep Nominations
- 11/6 - American Farmers & Ranches
Speech Contest, Fairview
- 11/12 - Entry Form due for Share-The-Fun
- 11/15 - Share-the-Fun, Okeene, 7:00 p.m.

BLAINE COUNTY SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST

_____ Name of Act

Name(s) of Participant(s) _____

_____ Group (2 or more participants)

_____ Individual (1 participant)

Performance (interpretation, Talent, Originality)	Appearance (costume, props atmosphere for acts)	Projection (ability to reach the audience)	Polish (Skill, grasp of material, routine etc.)	Audience Appeal
30 Points	20 Points	15 Points	20 Points	15 Points

Judges Comments:

Each act has a total of 10 min. to get their act on & off the stage (including a max. of 6 minutes for the presentation). Any act that exceeds these time limits will be penalized as follows:

SCORE _____

Points – Anytime up to ½ minute over – 2 point penalty
½ minute to 1 minute over – 5 point penalty
Each additional minute over – 10 point penalty

TIME PENALTY _____

FINAL SCORE _____

RANK OF ACT: Blue _____ Red _____

Judge's Signature

4-H Program Gearing up for Centennial celebration

What started out as a corn club in Tishomingo has turned out to be Oklahoma's largest youth organization. In 1909, W. D. Bentley, known as the "father of Extension work" in Oklahoma, started what was recognized as the first official 4-H club in Oklahoma – a corn club of 50 members.

Today the 4-H program is more than 158,000 members strong, is available in all 77 counties and is on the cusp of celebrating its centennial.

Jessica Stewart, state 4-H marketing coordinator – promotions and special programs, said plans are underway for a celebration that will last for nearly a year and a half.

"The Oklahoma 4-H Centennial celebration officially kicked off during State 4-H Roundup on July 30," Stewart said. "More than 900 youth and adults celebrated with a cake-cutting ceremony at the birthday bash."

Oklahoma 4-H'ers also will have the opportunity to celebrate the history of the 4-H program at the 2008 and the 2009 Oklahoma State Fair and the Tulsa State Fair, as well as county fairs. Special classes have been created for all of the fairs that will allow 4-H alumni to enter special collections, scrapbooks and memorabilia from their 4-H days.

"Following the fairs we hope to be able to display these historical artifacts and winning exhibits at various museums across the state," she said.

Another centennial celebration project is an Oklahoma 4-H Centennial History Book. State 4-H Ambassadors have been recruited to identify and interview 4-H alumni and others who were involved in 4-H.

Stewart said the Ambassadors also will conduct workshops about the history book and will be recruiting other 4-H'ers to write and submit stories.

"Anyone who has a 4-H history they'd like to share is encouraged to submit it," she said. "The finished history book will be a hardcover coffee-table-style book that chronicles the history of Oklahoma 4-H through its centennial year of 2009."

Historical stories or history book interview nominations may be submitted to Stewart by calling her at 405-744-7960 or e-mailing her at jessica.stewart@okstate.edu.

Stewart said State 4-H Officers are also incorporating the centennial into their goals and objectives.

"State officers will be creating videos and capturing footage of the top creative citizenship projects," Stewart said. "Videos will be submitted, and the top 100 will be selected to celebrate 100 years of 4-H citizenship projects."

A special "Oklahoma 4-H Centennial Garden" is being developed at the OSU Botanical Garden, which is home to the studio garden of the popular OETA television program *Oklahoma Gardening*. 4-H'ers from around the state will help *Oklahoma Gardening* staff in planning, preparing and planting the special commemorative garden, which should be available for viewing in 2009.

For those who enjoy traveling, consider taking part in the 4-H Centennial Road Trip. This is an opportunity to visit places significant to Oklahoma 4-H, allows 4-H'ers to meet club members from around the state and learn more about Oklahoma.

"We're very excited about all of the activities that are planned to celebrate the history of one of the greatest youth organizations in the world," Stewart said. "In addition to these statewide events, we are encouraging all counties to plan their own centennial events throughout 2009 to celebrate the 100th birthday of 4-H."

