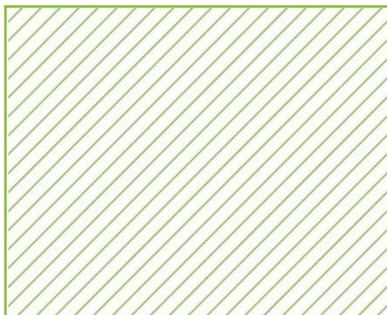


MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

MC LEOD COUNTY

November 2013

 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION



CONTACT US

Jill Grams
4-H Program Coordinator

Marla Thissen
Support Staff

840 Century Ave, STE B
Hutchinson MN 55350
Phone 320-484-4334

www.4-H.umn.edu
www.extension.umn.edu/county/mcleod

In This Issue

Message from Dorothy	2
Sharpen Your Skills as a Project Leader	2
New 4-H Code of Conduct	2
4-H Enrollment and Re-enrollment for 2013-2014	2
Project Bowl Coaches Training	3
4-H Volunteer Training	3
General Livestock Bowl Information	3
Ambassador Holiday Party and Meeting	4
Making Smiles: Community Oral Health Youth Leader Grant	4
Favorite Food Show Planning Meeting	4
Auction Committee Meeting	4
Register for a BLU near You!	4
MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association Conference	5
National Youth Summits Opportunity	5
National 4-H Conference.....	5
Welcome to the New Ambassador Advisors	5
Meet Your Regional Extension Educators	6
Calendar	6



Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H Families and Volunteers,

Minnesota 4-H's vision is to provide hands-on opportunities for youth to learn, lead and contribute in their school, college, career and communities, now and throughout their lives. Our 4-H alumni are shining examples of 4-H's impact in developing generations of leaders in Minnesota.

The current edition of Extension's *Source* magazine is now available and includes a story about Extension 4-H alumni and former speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives Margaret Anderson Kelliher. In it, she talks about how 4-H equipped her with skills and experiences that paved the way for her years of service and leadership as an adult.

I hope you will read this story and share it with people in your community to help them understand the important role 4-H plays in preparing youth to lead, contribute, and help Minnesota communities thrive. You can find the article on Extension's web site here:

www1.extension.umn.edu/source/fall-2013/4-h-alumni-give-back-to-communities/ .

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate Dean and State 4-H Director

Sharpen Your Skills as a Project Leader

4-H offers young people a large menu of projects to learn skills. Project leaders have an important role in helping members plan and carry out projects. The online training *4-H Project Leaders: Where the Action Starts* will address the knowledge, skills, and resources volunteers need to be successful in their project leader roles.

The training is part of a series of dynamic, interactive 30-minute online training modules to help volunteers build their skills and knowledge from home. These trainings are available to all adult screened volunteers, through <https://mn.4honline.com/>. Check out other online volunteer training topics:

- Creating a Welcoming, Engaging and Encouraging Environment for Youth
- Managing 4-H Clubs - Online 4-H Volunteer Training
- The 4-H Learning Environment
-

To get a preview of each of the trainings, visit: www.4-h.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training/.

New 4-H Code of Conduct

Minnesota 4-H strives to be a quality youth development experience for all young people! A standard of behavior for all individuals involved in a program is one of the key components for creating a welcoming and safe learning environment. The Minnesota 4-H Youth Development program outlines expected standards of behavior in the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct.

This fall all youth, parents, and volunteers will be asked to review and commit to the new Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct through the enrollment/re-enrollment process. This code of conduct may be viewed at: www.4-h.umn.edu/policies.

4-H Enrollment and Re-enrollment for 2013-2014

Don't miss out! The new 4-H year began on October 1 and all 4-H youth and volunteers must be enrolled (or re-enrolled) in order to participate or volunteer in Minnesota 4-H. Enrolling early ensures continued communication about 4-H opportunities and deadlines as well as accident coverage while participating in 4-H programs.

MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

MC LEOD COUNTY | November 2013
320-484-4334 | www.fourh.mn.edu

PAGE 3

Youth may enroll as Cloverbuds (Grades K-2), club members (Grades 3-13), or independent members (Grades 6-13). Project interests are selected as part of the enrollment process but may continue to be updated until county fair exhibit registration is due. Enrollment options are detailed at www.4-H.umn.edu/be-a-4-H-member.

MN 4-H uses 4HOnline.com, which means that families can go online to enroll new members and to re-enroll returning members and volunteers. In addition, club and project leaders can access enrollment data in 4HOnline related to their club or project area. Full details about 4HOnline.com are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/4honline.

New (first time) 4-H adult volunteers are always welcome and needed! To get started, interested adults must first complete the three step 4-H volunteer screening process before enrolling. Instructions and forms are available at www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/#application.

Project Bowl Coaches Training

Project Bowl is the second largest attended event during the 4-H year. Patterned after the golden-oldie television show "College Bowl", it challenges teams of three to six youth in their knowledge of certain 4-H project areas.

Currently there are seven different bowls: Dairy, Dog, General Livestock, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit and Wildlife.

We are excited to offer a coaches training on Saturday, November 16 from 9:00am - Noon at the Rice County 4-H Building (located on the Rice County Fairgrounds) 1900 Fairgrounds Dr. #17, Faribault, MN 55021. Training will include general information about project bowl, timeline ideas, places to find reference materials to get your team started...etc. Cost is FREE but registration is required.

Please complete the registration form and indicate the project area materials you would be

interested in purchasing at the training...registration deadline is Friday, November 8th.

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/county/Fillmore/news/2013ProjectBowlCoachesTrainingregistrationform.pdf>

4-H Volunteer Training

WHAT: OMG! You've Got 4-H Parents! Now What??

WHEN: Monday, November 18, 2013, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Sibley County Service Center

You are invited to attend a very interesting presentation on how parents play a critical role in deciding the organizations in which their children will participate. The experience the family has in 4-H during their first year is important for long-term participation. This session will help volunteers explore a variety of strategies to increase positive parental support of local 4-H programs. As a result, parents will stay connected with their own children, recognize mutual expectations and responsibilities between parents and volunteers, and become caring adults for other youth.

Please RSVP to rettm001@umn.edu if you plan on attending!

General Livestock Bowl Information

The coaches plan to start with practice for the regular bowl season on Sunday, December 1st. The location is TBA. Please contact Patty Dahlke at pattydahlke@yahoo.com by Nov.

15 deadline if you are interested to help aid in the planning. Practices usually start with pot-luck at 6:30 and start studying at 7:00 p.m. with the attempt of being done by 8:30 p.m.

Ambassador Holiday Party and Meeting

All youth interested in the McLeod County 4-H Ambassador Program should mark their calendars for Sunday, December 8th at the 4-H Building on the McLeod County Fairgrounds. The group will meet around 1:30 p.m. to go shopping for their adopted family at Walmart. Everyone is encouraged to bring a \$5.00 cash donation or more to help purchase the gifts for the family. The group will then go back to the 4-H Café for an afternoon with food, activities and wrapping of the Christmas Gifts. The event should conclude around 4:30 p.m. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 4th at 4:30 p.m.

Making Smiles: Community Oral Health Youth Leader Grant

Did you know that 30–40% of children have cavities found at their first visit to the dentist around age three to four years of age? This cavity crisis can be reduced with simple community oral health education and community networking of health field resources. From producing community displays, public service announcements, or puppet shows to potentially working with dentists and doctors youth will gain skills in designing and delivering messages in ways that connect those skills to active citizenry.

Youth groups are invited to apply for \$200 mini grants to educate their communities about oral health needs of young children. Upon completion of an approved plan \$25 stipends are awarded to youth team members. Youth groups will design and submit their application by **January 1st** with the plan to deliver their program in the spring/summer of 2014 and highlight their project in a community fair display.

Grant funds may be used for project supplies and costs associated with delivering the program.

Application, mini grant details and resources may be found at:

<http://www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/scholarships/community-oral-health-project-youth-leaders-grant/index.html>.

Additional questions may be directed to Carrie Olson at olson166@umn.edu.

Favorite Food Show Planning Meeting

The planning meeting for the 2014 Favorite Food Show will be on Tuesday, January 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the 4-H Café. Any adults and youth interested in helping plan this event should plan on attending. For questions, please contact Jill at the Extension Office.

Auction Committee Meeting

The first Auction Committee meeting for the year will be on Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the 4-H Café. The following items will be included on the agenda: Buyer appreciation meal, buyer thank you notes, newspaper publicity, participation of all species represented in the auction, review auction dollar request forms for the disbursement of funds. Hope to see a large group of committee members there!

Register for a BLU near You!

The Minnesota 4-H State Ambassadors invite all youth in grades 6 on up to plan to attend a *Building Leadership and Understanding (BLU)* overnight leadership retreat near you! Volunteer chaperones will also be needed. Five BLUs will be held this year in the following locations:

- **February 1–2 – Shoreview**
- **February 8–9 – Marshall**
- **February 15–16 – Crookston**
- **February 22–23 – Duluth**
- **March 1–2 – Owatonna**

Additional details are available online at: <http://www.4-H.umn.edu/events/blu/>, or connect with your County 4-H Office for more information.

MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association Conference

February 6-8, 2014 - Plymouth, MN

Volunteers and their families are invited to attend the 29th Annual MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association (M4-HAVA) Conference at the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn in Plymouth on February 6-8, 2014. One of the focus areas will be 4-H Project Curriculum Training. ***Early Bird registration must be received before January 1st*** to receive the discount rate for new or renewing M4-HAVA members.

Complete details including conference registration and hotel reservation information is available on the University of Minnesota Extension webpage:

www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/m4-hava.

National Youth Summits Opportunity

The National Youth Summit series is a national opportunity for high school students, grades 9 - 12, to advance their skills, meet industry mentors, and prepare for a career in science, technology or healthy living. The first Summit on Geo-Spatial Technologies was successful with 127 high school students! Upcoming summit events include:

- National Youth Summit on Healthy Living: ***January 9 - 12, 2014***
- National Youth Summit on Agri-Science: ***January 16 - 20, 2014***
- National Youth Summit on Robotics: ***February 13 - 17, 2014***

Link to more information at: <http://www.nationalyouthsummit.org/>.

National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the US Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities.

Important dates include:

- ***April 5-10, 2014*** - Conference, National 4-H Conference Center, ***Washington, D.C.*** (possible flight dates of April 4 and April 11)
- ***November 19, 2013*** - Application deadline postmark date. All youth delegate application/recommendation forms, staff recommendation forms, and other adult recommendation forms are due with postmark date of November 19, 2013.

Please go to the following URL for delegate application process and materials:

www.4-H.umn.edu/events/national-conference

Welcome to the New Ambassador Advisors

We want to extend a huge welcome to Bridgette Buss and Kelsey Buss who have volunteered their time to serve at as our 4-H Ambassador Advisors! Bridgette and Kelsey are both 4-H Alumni of the McLeod County 4-H Program and are excited to begin working with our teens. They will work with the group to accomplish community service learning and leadership skill building, in addition to some of the traditional programming this group has been doing. Thank you to Bridgett and Kelsey for giving back to the McLeod County 4-H Program!

Meet Your Regional Extension Educators



The University of Minnesota Center for Youth Development has divided the state into five regions. In the Central Region there are ten Extension Educators working in 4-H Youth Development. This article will introduce you to one of those Extension Educators. Watch this space in the months to come for additional introductions or click on this link to read all the introductions now: z.umn.edu/REEs

Hi! My name is Josey Landrieu and I've been an Extension Educator in the Center for Youth Development for a little over five years now. I started my work in Extension as a 4-H Intern in Olmsted County and then transitioned to my Educator role in the Metro, Twin Cities area. I'm beyond excited about our new Central Region team. I lead work in the areas of Regional Program Planning and Evaluation, Citizenship and Leadership, and Staff Development. I have the privilege of working directly with both Hennepin and Chisago counties by supervising the Program Coordinators in these two counties.

A big driver of my work is to always look for ways in which youth and adults from diverse backgrounds can come together and experience positive youth development opportunities. I'm honored to work with the 4-H program and serve the most densely populated and ethnically diverse region in our state.

I can be reached at spall003@umn.edu or via phone at 612-624-4858. I look forward to meeting all of you!

Next month look forward to an introduction to Jessica Russo from the 4-H Urban Youth Development Office.

Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 8 4-H Recognition Banquet
- 14 Club Officers Training
- 28&29 Extension Office Closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 2 Auction Committee Meeting, 4-H Café
- 8 Ambassador Holiday Party, 4-H Café

JANUARY

- 7 Favorite Food Show Planning Meeting, 4-H Café
- Auction Committee Meeting, 4-H Café
- 9-12 National Youth Summit on Health Living, Chevy Chase, MD
- 16-20 National Youth Summit on Agri-Science, Chevy Chase, MD
- 24-25 Regional 4-H Lock-In, Montecello
- 26 4-H Bowling Tournament, Hutchinson
- 4-H Fruit Sales Kick-off
- 27 McLeod County 4-H Youth Association Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 1-2 BLU Leadership Retreat, Shoreview
- 6-8 MN 4-H Adult Volunteer Association Conference, Plymouth
- 8-9 BLU Leadership Retreat, Marshall
- 13-17 National Youth Summit on Robotics, Chevy Chase, MD
- 15-16 BLU Leadership Retreat, Crookston
- 22-23 BLU Leadership Retreat, Duluth

MARCH

- 1-2 BLU Leadership Retreat, Owatonna
- 10 Family Fun Night
- Favorite Food Show
- Fruit Sales Delivered

APRIL

- 1 Livestock Meeting
- 5-10 National 4-H Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 21 McLeod County 4-H Youth Association Meeting

JUNE

- 9-12 YELLO! Leadership Retreat, MN State Fairgrounds, St. Paul