

2011 Brown County 4-H Calendar

A complete 2010 calendar can be found on the 4-H web site at www.BrownCountyExtension.org and click on "4-H Youth Development" and then "Forms & Documents" and scroll down to "4-H Calendars."

January			
4	Tuesday	History Club, 4 pm	County
4	Tuesday	Brown County 4-H Leaders Executive Board & Leaders Association Meetings	County
4	Tuesday	Brown County LOT ² Meeting	County
7	Friday	DEADLINE: Speaking Fest registrations due today!	County
8	Saturday	Mandatory Trip Meeting, 8:30-10:30 am	County
8	Saturday	Club Officer Training, 10:30 am-12:30 pm NOTE TIME CHANGE!	County
13	Thursday	Adult Wisline: Carcass Shows, Ultrasound, & Alternatives to Strengthen County Livestock Projects, 7-8:30 pm	State
21-22	Friday-Saturday	4-H Art Lab, Upham Woods	State
22	Saturday	Livestock Quiz Bowl, Madison	State
24	Monday	DEADLINE: Applications due for 4-H State Groups (Art Team, Drama Company, Photo Team, & Showcase Singers)	State
28-29	Friday-Saturday	Ag Truths not Tails Conference, Upham Woods	State
29	Saturday	Brown County 4-H Speaking Fest	County
February			
1	Tuesday	History Club, 4 pm	County
1	Tuesday	Brown County 4-H Leaders Executive Board & Leaders Association Meetings	County
1	Tuesday	Brown County LOT ² Meeting	County
1	Tuesday	Adult Wisline: Coaches Training for Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Quiz Bowl, & Skillathon, 7:30-9 pm	State
4	Friday	DEADLINE: Music Fest registrations due today!	County
5	Saturday	Sheep Educational Meeting	County
5	Saturday	Wisconsin 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest	State
10	Thursday	Adult Wisline: The Facts of Pay Lean®	State
26	Saturday	Brown County 4-H Music Fest	County
March			
1	Tuesday	DEADLINE: Brown County Leaders Assn. Scholarship Applications due today!	County
1	Tuesday	History Club, 4 pm	County
1	Tuesday	Brown County 4-H Leaders Executive Board & Leaders Association Meetings	County
1	Tuesday	Brown County LOT ² Meeting	County
5	Saturday	UW-Madison Arlington Sheep Day, UW-Arlington Research Station	State
10	Thursday	Badger Livestock Judging Camp, Arlington Research Station, Arlington	State
10	Thursday	Adult Wisline: Animal Welfare Preparation, 7-8:30 pm	State



At the December 6, 2010 Brown County 4-H Leaders Association meeting the educational presentation focused on *Civil Rights*. We reviewed enrollment data trends for the county and compared Brown County data

to other urban counties in Wisconsin and to other counties in the Eastern District. We also talked about the required annual Civil Rights report; county, state and federal Civil Rights reviews; and the importance of members, parents, and volunteers to accurately complete the ethnic, race, and gender information on the yearly enrollment forms.

Did you know that 4-H clubs, 4-H Leader Associations, and any other groups authorized to use the 4-H name and emblem must comply with the same nondiscrimination laws and regulations which are required of UW-Extension employees? It is expected that *“Extension staff members, 4-H volunteers, and 4-H members actively work to strengthen and expand 4-H Youth Development educational programs for all residents of local communities.”* This means that we must:

- Comply with federal and state nondiscrimination laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Categories of prohibited discrimination include race, color, sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital, or parental status.
- Strengthen programs to more adequately serve those who, for whatever reason, have not had full access to such programs.
- Take positive steps to assure that all eligible youth of the county are well served by 4-H programs. In doing this, particular attention must be paid to the needs and interests of minority youth.

So how can we strengthen the 4-H Youth Development program in Brown County and reach minority youth with positive youth development programs? What are you as a 4-H family or a 4-H club/group already doing to reach underserved or underrepresented youth? What ideas do you have for a unified county approach to outreach? Please email me information about what you are currently doing or what you think we can do better to reach more youth through 4-H programs.

Complying with Civil Rights also means that we need to demonstrate that all reasonable efforts have been made available to the maximum possible potential audience in a given area. Three steps are required to demonstrate “all reasonable effort”:

- Mass media to publicize opportunities
- Personal letters and invitational flyers
- Personal visits to invite adults and youth to Participate in clubs and programs
- Targeted outreach to under represented minority populations

During 2011 are you willing to:

- Teach or assist with one activity at an after-school program?
- Invite and transport a non-4-H member to a 4-H club meeting/event?
- Do a 4-H educational program at an urban library?
- Visit a cultural center to promote 4-H?
- Help with a special event sponsored by 4-H for urban youth?

For more information about 4-H and Civil Rights please contact the office

Animal Crackers



Livestock and Dairy Auction

If you are exhibiting beef, dairy, poultry, rabbit, sheep, or swine at the 2011 Brown County Fair AND plan to participate in the **Livestock and Dairy Auction**, please read the following information carefully. Your eligibility for participation in the auction depends on your attendance at the following meetings and educational events.

General Guidelines (One General Guidelines Meeting Required for All) and MAQA (One MAQA Meeting Required for Market Beef, Sheep, & Swine): We have combined General Guidelines and MAQA training again this year. Those planning to participate in the 2011 Brown County Fair Auction with beef, sheep, or swine need to attend one Guidelines/MAQA Meeting. Those planning to sell in dairy, poultry, or rabbits need to attend one Guidelines Meeting and by attending the MAQA meeting immediately following the Guidelines Meeting will also meet their

Educational Meeting requirement. We will again offer three Guidelines Meetings and two MAQA Meetings at the Brown County Ag & Extension Service Center in Green Bay. The Guidelines Meetings are only offered at the Brown County Office. **If you do not attend one of the three General Guidelines Meetings, you are not eligible to take part in the 2011 Livestock and Dairy Auction.** If you are unable to attend one of the MAQA Meetings at the Brown County Office, occasionally they are offered through neighboring county Extension offices. You will need to contact, request their schedule, and make a reservation to attend. If you attend at another location, you will need to provide verification of your participation.

All meetings except as noted will be held at the Ag & Extension Center in Green Bay.

- **Saturday, January 8**, 1-3 p.m.—Combined Guidelines/Educational (Ultrasound) Meeting (see next column)
- **Saturday, February 12**, 9-11 a.m.—Combined Guidelines/MAQA Meeting
- **Monday, February 21**, 7-9 p.m.—Combined Guidelines/MAQA Meeting

Livestock Meeting Registration: Please register for all General Guidelines, MAQA, and Educational Meetings at least one week in advance of the meeting by contacting Kathy at dechamps_ka@co.brown.wi.us or 920-391-4654. If you do not register, there may not be adequate space for the number of participants attending or enough handouts or other meeting supplies. Meetings will be cancelled if not enough people register.

Livestock Educational Meetings (One Livestock Educational Meeting Required for All): A variety of species-specific Educational Meetings are being planned for 2011. All youth who plan to sell a market animal of any species or a dairy basket at the Livestock and Dairy Auction are required to participate in at least one Livestock Educational Meeting. These events will be announced in future newsletters and on the Brown County 4-H web site. While it is helpful to attend a Livestock Educational Meeting related to your animal exhibit, youth will receive credit for attending any of the Livestock Educational Meetings.

Ultrasound Educational Meeting: Are you a youth or adult involved with a meat animal project this year? You won't want to miss the educational meeting on **Saturday, January 8**, from 1-3 p.m. at the Ag & Extension Service Center. In addition to the required

Livestock and Dairy Auction Guidelines Meeting, **Dr. Gary Onan**, UW-River Falls Department of Animal and Food Science Chair, will be here to help us better understand ultrasound and livestock evaluation. Last year Gary did the ultrasound judging for Brown County youth and provided lots of valuable information to those who asked questions while he was here. If there is something more specific that you would like Gary to present while he is here, please email the 4-H Office with your question or suggestion before December 15. ***Pre-registration is required!*** We need to have all youth and adults that plan to attend this training register by January 1 to insure we have enough handouts and large enough meeting space. A minimum of 20 are needed to hold this session since Gary is traveling a long distance to be here.

Sheep Educational Meeting: This event will be held **Saturday, February 5**, from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Dale & Judy Dobberpuhl farm, 5807 Cty. Rd. X, De Pere. Topics to be covered include lambing time management and choosing the right market lamb for your Fair project. Please contact the 4-H Office to register by January 28.

Beef, Sheep, and Swine Weigh-Ins: The market animal weigh-in dates have been scheduled for 2011 and will be held at the Jason Gilson farm, 6535 Deuster Road, Greenleaf. If you are bringing a market beef, lamb, or hog to the Brown County Fair, you must bring your animal to the weigh-in to determine the initial weight and tag the animal for identification. The Brown County Livestock **Weigh-In** dates are:

Saturday, March 19—Beef, 9-11 a.m.

Saturday, May 7—Sheep & Swine, 9-11:30 a.m.

Educational Meeting Partial Scholarship: The Auction Committee is again offering the opportunity to attend a conference or extended educational program. The Auction Committee will assist with expenses for your attendance. You are required to submit the registration information, fees, lodging expenses, and statement on what you plan to gain from the event. Up to three requests will be considered. Please submit to the 4-H Office 30 days prior to the event.



Questions? Contact the 4-H Office or a Livestock and Dairy Auction Committee member: Mark Cornette, Mary Johns, Dave Kabat, Steve Leiterman, or Gary Vander Heiden.

Wisconsin State Fair Junior Dairy Show Updates

The 2011 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Dairy Shows will be held August 4th – 7th at Wisconsin State Fair Park. The following are a few reminders and rule updates and clarifications for the 2011 Fair.

- Ownership deadline is January 1, 2011 for all dairy cattle two years and older. New clarification: Registration papers must show exhibitor recorded as owner or co-owned with immediate junior family members only. Immediate junior family members must be under 21 years of age as of January 1st of the current Fair year. Immediate junior family members include siblings (brother or sister) and step- siblings (step-brother or sister). Animals co-owned with parents, the family farm or others are considered managerial.
- Calves and yearling ownership/co-ownership deadline will continue to be May 31st.



The Wisconsin State Fair is proud to be the state's largest Agricultural Showcase. If you have any questions please go to www.wistatefair.com or by contacting the Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture department at 414-266-7050.

Coaches Training for Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Quiz Bowl, & Skillathon

UW-Extension will be sponsoring a Wisline conference call for beginning and current coaches of Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Quiz Bowl Teams, and Skillathon Teams. The Wisline program will occur on Tuesday, February 1, from 7:30-9 p.m. Topics covered will be:

- How to form teams
- How to work with youth
- Educational resources available
- A discussion of current contest's structure

In order to participate, you will need to contact Bernie O'Rourke by email at borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu or by phone at 608-263-4304 before January 28. Once you are registered, you will receive the call information and any handout materials that are available.

4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest

Entries for the Wisconsin 4-H Dairy Quiz bowl contest Saturday, February 5, are due on January 12. The event will be held at John Muir Elementary School in Portage with registration for the event starting at 9:45 a.m.

In the dairy bowl, contestants will answer a variety of questions about dairy cattle. All questions will come from the sources listed in the official dairy bowl rules which can be found on the Wisconsin Dairy Youth website at www.uwex.edu/ces/dairyouth/gbowl.php. Teams compete in a double elimination format by giving oral answers to questions posed by the moderator. There will be three divisions; Junior, Senior and Mixed which may be composed of both Junior and Senior aged participants. Junior participants must be aged 9-13 on January 1, 2011, and Senior participants must be aged 14-18 on January 1, 2011.

The winning dairy bowl team will represent Wisconsin at the Invitational 4-H youth Dairy Bowl Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition (N.A.I.L.E) in Louisville, KY. More information on the Wisconsin 4-H Dairy Bowl may be found at www.uwex.edu/ces/dairyouth or by contacting Beth Heinze at heinze2@wisc.edu

Arts & Activities



ATTN: Clothing Project Members Sue Vanevenhoven



Face-to-face judging for clothing projects will be held Thursday, June 23, from 2-6 p.m. at the Ag & Extension Service Center. Judging for the Style Revue will be held at the same time. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS! (Cloverbuds, Exploring, and Home Environment members who have sewing projects will have them judged at the Brown County Fair in August.) Members will be able to take their projects home with them after judging but must return their projects on Tuesday of the Fair to receive their ribbons and premiums. If you have any questions, please call Sue Vanevenhoven (532-5550), Sharon Faulds (864-7764), or Connie Lenz (338-0097).

Basketball Tournament–One Day Only: Saturday April 16

Chris Neumeyer

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 16! This is the date set for the Brown County 4-H Basketball Tournament at Wrightstown High School. The purpose of this tournament is to have youth from throughout the county join together to have fun, to learn, and to make friendships.

Funds generated from this event support teens from throughout Brown County to attend educational and fun 4-H trips this year. The youth going on these trips and their parents help to organize and run this tournament. Without their help, this FUN activity would not be possible.

We are looking for help in running the tournament. The Youth, who will be attending these trips in the summer of 2011, and their parents, help to run the various areas of the tournament. An organizational meeting will be held on January 8, 2011 from 8:30 am to 10:30 am at the Ag and Extension Center to organize the various areas that will need chairpeople. The basketball portion is covered. Chairpeople are needed for the Welcome Table/Silent Auction area, Publicity, Bake Sale, and the Food Stand. Previous chairpeople can help you get organized, so don't be afraid to step up and help. TRIP YOUTH & PARENTS, please come prepared to sign up for your work shifts and possibly think about chairing one of the areas. Also Brown County 4-H clubs, families and youth, your help at the tournament is needed and always appreciated.

Watch the February newsletter for more details about the tournament!

Volunteer Orientation/Youth Protection

The next and final Volunteer Orientation/Youth Protection session is scheduled for new leaders (or any leaders that have not yet been certified) for the following date:

- **Tuesday, February 1st**, from 1-3 p.m.

Please remember that in order for your club to be chartered, **ALL leaders must be certified**. This is the last opportunity for new leaders to become certified for the 2010-2011 enrollment year. Call 391-4654 to register.

Mandatory Trip Fund Raising Meeting

Youth who have been selected to participate in one of the state or national 4-H trips are required to participate, along with a parent/guardian, in the Mandatory Trip Fund Raising Meeting on **Saturday, January 8**, at 8:30-10:30 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Ag & Extension Service Center.

4-H Club Officer Training

All 4-H Club presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers, reporters, historians, recreation leaders, and other officers are invited to participate in *4-H Club Officers Training*. This workshop will be held on **Saturday, January 8**, at the Agriculture & Extension Service Center in Green Bay. This workshop will run from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



The purpose of *4-H Club Officer Training* is to help young officers learn the responsibilities of their new position, develop new leadership skills, and be aware of various tools and techniques to help them be successful in their leadership position. Register by Monday, January 3, by contacting Kathy at the 4-H Office at dechamps_ka@co.brown.wi.us or 391-4654.

4-H Summer Camp Youth Staff Positions

Now is the time to apply to be a 4-H Summer Camp Youth Staff member! If you are in grades 9-13 and have an interest in working with younger youth and developing your leadership skills, this is an opportunity you won't want to miss. This year, there are approximately 22 youth staff positions available including: cabin counselors, outpost counselors, and program staff positions. Youth staff applications are now available and are due on **February 11** in the 4-H Office. Applicants must participate in a face-to-face interview either on Saturday, March 5, in Green Bay or on Sunday, March 6, in Oshkosh. Youth selected are required to participate in the Youth Staff Leadership Training workshops scheduled on March 25, April 16-17, May 7, and June 23. 4-H Summer Camp will be held **July 5-8** at Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Wisconsin Dells, and this year Brown County will be camping together with Winnebago County. Contact the 4-H Office with any questions.

Adult Chaperones Needed for 4-H Summer Camp

In order to provide a safe and fun experience for youth campers and a supportive environment for Counselors and other Youth Staff, we need adults, including parents and 4-H leaders, who are willing to go to camp. If we register the maximum number of campers, we will need 16 adults to serve as chaperones for the 2011 Brown/Winnebago 4-H Summer Camp. The primary role of the adult camp chaperone is to be in a supportive role for the Youth Cabin Counselors and Youth Program Staff. Prior camp experience is not necessary, but all adults must be an enrolled 4-H leader or be willing to be background checked, participate in a 4-H Volunteer Orientation workshop, and sign the



Adult Expectation Form prior to camp. A few adult camp positions require specific certifications, training, or experience including the First Aid Coordinator, Archery Leader, and Outpost Chaperones. While adult chaperones must be at camp for the entire camp session, they are not required to attend the Youth Staff Training sessions, but are encouraged to attend and help lead some of the activities.

Adult chaperone applications are now available and are due on **February 11** in the 4-H Office. 4-H Summer Camp will be held **July 5-8** at Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Wisconsin Dells.

Foods Revue Date Change!

To accommodate the youth that are involved in the Basketball Tournament, the Foods Revue date is changed to **Saturday, May 7**. Please mark your calendars!



4-H Camp Tapawingo Tree Sale

Are you thinking of adding a windbreak to your property? Or perhaps an area for sheltering and feeding wildlife? The 4-H Camp TaPaWingo tree sale has a wide variety of tree and shrub species suitable for both purposes.



This annual fundraiser helps support programming and improvements at the 4-H camp. The trees and shrubs are native, disease-resistant species grown by reputable nurseries in our climate and dug immediately before shipment.

No need to travel for your tree pick-up; orders can be shipped directly to you. Limited numbers of trees and shrubs are available so please order early. **Order deadline is March 15th**. The order form can be found at <http://www.camptapawingo.org/>.

Science Expo—Volunteers Needed!

4-H has once again been invited to participate in the The Einstein Project Science Expo at Shopko Hall on **Saturday, January 15**. This event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity to promote 4-H! We will be conducting a hands-on science related activity. Adult or older youth volunteers are needed to help with this event! Please consider volunteering for one of these 3 shifts (10 people are needed for each shift):

- Wednesday, January 12, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Preparation for event at the Ag & Extension Service Ctr.—Need 4 volunteers
- Saturday, January 15,* from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at ShopKo Hall (includes setup) - Need 6 volunteers
- Saturday, January 15,* from 12 noon-4:30 p.m. at ShopKo Hall (includes cleanup) - Need 6 volunteers

The schedule provides overlap during the noon hour to assist with the shift change. Please call the 4-H Office if you are able to help with this event.

*Please note: If the Packers are in the play-offs, the Science Expo will be held **Sunday, January 16**.

Opportunities



¡Hola! Konnichiwa! Hei! Annyeong! **Welcome a Costa Rican, Mexican, Japanese, Norwegian, or South Korean Teen into Your Life Next Summer!**

Add a great big handful of excitement to your home next summer by hosting a Costa Rican, Mexican, Japanese, Norwegian, or South Korean Teen for one month! You could be a host! If you are between 10-18 years old and want to take part in a month that will stay with you for a lifetime, apply now! Chaperone hosts also needed for two week periods during July-August. Applications are due by February 15 or till all delegates are assigned. Here's the scoop:

Summer four-week International host opportunities include:

1. Cost Rica 4-S youth between 15-19 years old; rural youth seeking a 4-H farm experience, June 19-July 15, 2011. Some Spanish is helpful for hosting.
2. Japan/South Korean Labo or LEX language/cultural club youth b/t 12-15 years old – a great host opportunity for 10-13 year old 4-H'ers! July 24-August 20, 2011.
3. Mexico LEX language club youth. 12-18 years old. July 1-30, 2011. Need two homes for two weeks each for the chaperone and her 3-year-old son.
4. Norge 4-H'ers mostly between 16-18 years old. About 25 youth will visit the U.S. from Norway. June 29-July 26. One of them is 20 year old so a family with an 18-19 year old son will have the opportunity to host him.

Applications due February 15 but accepted till all youth are assigned. Visit the website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/international.cfm> for more information and an application.

Privyet!

The Russians are coming for the 2011-12 School Year...and the Ukrainians, Kazakhs, Armenians and Other Eurasians as well as the Japanese!

If you have enjoyed a short term hosting experience or love working with students from other cultures, consider hosting a Japanese or Eurasian student through the C.S.I.E.T. approved 4-H/Japan or Future

Leaders Exchange (FLEX) High School Programs. Students arrive in August and depart in June. Requirements include having a genuine interest, being flexible and willing to spend time with the student, and having an extra bed available (not necessarily an extra room). All adults in the family must be certified 4-H volunteers. Previous hosting experience is not required. A host brother or sister of high school age is not a prerequisite and young or retired couples involved as 4-H leaders are also urged to apply. The application deadline is February 15.

For additional information and applications check out Wisconsin 4-H International Programs website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/onlinpro/international.cfm>; contact the Brown County 4-H Office staff, or call WI 4-H International Programs at (608) 262-2491 or (608) 262-1557 (e-mail lendved.nolan@gmail.com).

Military Extension Internships Offered

A partnership between the Cooperative Extension System and the Department of Defense has provided the funding for a national, military childcare/youth development internship program. Through this initiative, students



and recent graduates will have the opportunity to develop professional skills in childcare and youth development through practical work experience with military children, youth, and families. It is possible for current students to obtain academic credit for this experience. Interns' compensation will include an hourly wage or stipend and assistance with travel expenses. Interns will be placed on military installations across the United States with limited opportunities for international placement.

The Military Extension Internship Program is now accepting applications for Summer Semester, 2011. Applications will be accepted through February 1, 2011, and students will be notified of the status of their application by March 7, 2011. More information and application materials can be found at www.extension.purdue.edu/military Specific questions regarding the internships may be referred to: Amy Schott, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, aeschott@purdue.edu

Brown County 4-H Scholarship

Graduating 4-H members are eligible and encouraged to apply for the Brown County 4-H Scholarship. The deadline to apply is **March 1**. Guidelines and the application form are available on the 4-H website at www.BrownCountyExtension.org – click on “4-H Youth Development” and then “Forms and Documents.”

Required information for payment authorization:

- Transcript from college/university indicating full time status (min. 12 credits)
- 2.0 GPA or higher
- Student ID Number shown
- Institution’s address to where check should be sent

Required information for Scholarship applications:

- Copy of High School Transcript
- Verify GPA is 2.5 or higher
- Completed application
- Two letters of Recommendation
- Verify Applicant has been a 4-H member a minimum of 4 years

Cloverbuds! Our Christmas party is at our next meeting on December 13. Members are bringing non-perishable food. We are also going to pick 5 names from Dick’s Family Foods Giving Tree.



December: The meeting was a Christmas party. I had a blast. Almost everyone was here. We talked about expenses, old business, and new business. We decorated a float for the Wrightstown parade – it was fun throwing candy. We have a basketball tournament April 16th at Wrightstown high school. This will help raise money for our 5 club members going on 4-H trips. We are delivering Christmas cookies made by club members on December 18th. One of our members of the VandeHey family lost 2 rabbits in a garage fire. They were appreciative of a donation by our club and will use it for a calf project. After the official meeting we started the party. Everyone brought a non-perishable food for the local pantry. I played a Mexican hat dance game and took a good swing at a piñata. We got candy and prizes. There was also a snowflake craft & untangle the yarn game. For dinner, we had build your own nachos. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Club News

News

Greenleaf 4-H

Casey Sroda, Club Reporter

November: Our last was held November 8, 2010. It was the first meeting lead by the new officers. It was also enrollment night. First, the Drama Fest Participants performed their play Hillbilly Hills for the group (I was Earl). We got blue ribbons and our score report. Then, Becky Brown from the Suamico 4-H club showed us slides of her trip to Japan. The meeting lasted forever (to 8:12 pm). We covered many important topics like donations to Josh Kabat to clean his truck after hauling our cans for us, a ticket for Sam Brittnacher to attend the fair day of the poultry award from the Teresa Brittnacher Memorial, and other types of donations we hope to standardize through guidelines called the Sunshine Club (we are reviewing and need to vote on). The winter doesn’t stop our club. We are going to make a float for the Wrightstown Christmas parade to be held on December 4. The Greenleaf 4-H club is hoping to get new members and a leader for our



Lost Dauphin 4-H Club

Kaylee Coel, Reporter

Our last meeting was November 14 at the Lawrence Fire Hall. It was New Member Night which meant that we recognized all of the new members, which we have a lot of. Some people brought bread to the meeting in honor of "National Homemade Bread Day." The bread will be going to Paul's Pantry to help feed the less fortunate. Becky Brown from Suamico Beavertails came and gave a talk about her trip to Japan this past summer. It was part of the 4-H International Program. She talked about how she got selected to go on this trip. She talked about the lifestyles, the different food, and how different the schools are from ours. She had a lot of fun! After her talk about her trip, Melissa Hrdlicka gave a talk about her trip to Madison this past summer. Ray Clark also gave a talk about the Eastern District Winter Leadership Camp. There are so many opportunities to go on different trips. We recognized the people who got selected to go on trips next summer or for the different awards. Congratulations to everyone! We talked about the different fundraising we can do for our club. We always collect cans as a constant fundraiser. After that, we installed our officers into their duties and recognized our officers from last year. After the meeting, we had a performance of the play, "Masque of the Red Death" that our club performed at Drama Fest. Our next meeting will be at the Rennes Nursing Home on December 4 starting at 12:30 p.m. We will be singing Christmas carols and playing bingo with the residents.

Rockland 4-H

Jacob Van Dyck, Reporter

Rockland 4-H held their annual achievement on November 6 at the Rockland Town Hall. The program started with a pot luck supper. There were 65 people in attendance. All enjoyed a wonderful meal. After the meal, the first year members led the pledges. President Alex Van Dyck was master of ceremonies. Each member gave a short report on one of the activities they did in 2010. Some reports were about projects, some were about camp, and others about trips. Leader Mike Martin handed out leader certificates, and Leader Mary Van Dyck gave a report on all the club did in 2010. This included winning the "Fair Sign" contest and the Community Service Trophy, and Katrina Geurts getting the 4-H Key Award. Leader Darlene Simoens gave out member certificates and fair checks.

Bits & Pieces



Winter Bird Feeding Tips

During early winter, birds are scouting their territories and finding future food sources. Natural foods such as dead insects, insect eggs, and seeds are still available. When the very cold weather arrives, the calorie requirements of birds increase. At the same time, food is harder to find. Birds will flock to your feeders, knowing there is a convenient meal.

Place your bird feeders nearby, where you can watch and photograph different species. Shelter feeders from winds and snowdrifts. Protective cover – such as trees, evergreens, or shrubs – should be within 5 feet. You can even “plant” a used Christmas tree nearby.

Suet provides high energy and will attract woodpeckers and nuthatches. Bird seed mixes are not recommended. Wheat, milo, peanut hearts, hulled oats, and rice in these mixes are less attractive to birds – these seeds will be eaten, but not as soon as preferred seeds. Thistle seeds, hulled sunflower seeds, and fine-cracked corn attract various species. Small black oil-type sunflower seeds are high in calories, attract the most species, and are the best bet for your dollar. The black seeds are preferred over the gray or black-striped varieties of sunflower. The white (not red) proso millet seeds also attract a wide variety of birds. Buy in bulk (it is cheaper in the long run). Always use clean seed.

Keep your feeders and ground clean to prevent disease. Remove moldy seeds, clean bird droppings from baffles, chains, and trays. Use a bleach solution (1 part bleach to 9 parts water) to disinfect the feeders. Immerse the feeder completely in the solution for 2-3 minutes at the beginning of the season and at least once or twice a month. Wash plastic feeders in a dishwasher.

Water in winter is scarce and using a simple water heater (available at garden stores) to keep the water from freezing will attract as many birds as your feeders. The cost, spread out over many years of use, is minimal. Change the water every few days. Add some sand in the bath to provide footing.

Increase your bird watching enjoyment with a good bird identification guide and a set of field binoculars. You may enjoy your wintertime bird friends so much that you will want to plant your landscape to attract them all year.

