MINNESOTA 4-H CLOVER UPDATE

BRAINERD REGIONAL OFFICE / MILLE LACS COUNTY JANUARY 2013

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Shooting Sports Meeting

There will be an informational Shooting Sports meeting on Friday, January 4th at 7:00 pm at the Mille Lacs County Courthouse. Anyone who is interested and anyone who is participating in shooting sports this year needs to attend this meeting. Please call the Extension office if you have any questions.

Also if any parent or guardian is interested in being an instructor for Shooting Sports this spring and summer please contact Darla in the Extension office for more information and training information.

Horse PDC Meeting

The next Horse PDC meeting will be January 8th at 7:00 pm at the Mille Lacs County Boardroom and we will be discussing the rule book and voting on it. Your attendance is highly appreciated to go over the 2012-2013 Horse Rule Book. Please contact the Extension office if you need more information.

Shooting Sports and Wildlife Project Bowl

If you are interested in being in the SS&W project bowl they are starting practice at Princeton Methodist Church on January 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 7:00 pm. Please contact the Extension office if you would like to participate.

Cloverbud Science Saturday

Another Science Saturdays for Cloverbuds is set for this winter! These are fun hands on activities designed especially for Kindergarten through 3rd grade youth. Parent help is appreciated.

- Date: Saturday, January 12th and Saturday, February 9th
- Time: 9:00 am – 11:30 am
- Location: Princeton Methodist Church
- Cost: $5 per Saturday

Youth need not be 4-H members so be sure to invite your non-4-H friends too. Call the Extension office at (320) 983-8317 or (888) 680-8317 or e-mail Darla at steve408@umn.edu to preregister.

Regional Horse Project Meeting Invitation

The Minnesota 4-H State Horse PDC would like to invite all 4-H horse project members and 4-H horse project leaders to regional events. There will be a series of five regional events held across the state. The first Regional 4-H Horse event will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2013. A second event will also be held April 13, 2013.

The purpose of these regional events is to provide an educational topic around the horse project, provide counties an opportunity to ask questions, to clarify the horse project with someone who is trained regarding rules, etc., to provide horse enthusiasts an opportunity to network with other counties regarding best practices and learn about what other counties do in their horse project. Finally we will be electing the voting representatives to the State Horse PDC at these regional events. The State 4-H Horse PDC has been developed to strengthen and support the State Horse project. Note: only members currently enrolled in the 4-H horse project and screened/enrolled volunteers will be able to vote.

Please plan to attend these events. They will give you a valuable chance to learn what the horse project has to offer and strengthen your knowledge of the horse project.

Select the regional meeting your county is a part of:

Northeast Region: EVENT LOCATION: Sawmill Inn, Grand Rapids 10:00 am – noon

Counties in NE Region: Aitkin, Beltrami, Cass, Carlton, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Kanabec,

Koochiching, Lake, Mille Lacs, Morrison, North St. Louis, Pine, South St. Louis, Todd.

Central Region: EVENT LOCATION: Bunker Hills Activity Center, Andover, MN 10:00 am - noon

Counties in Central Region: Anoka, Benton, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, McLeod, Meeker, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright, Washington.

Federation Meeting

The next Federation meeting is Tuesday, January 22nd due to Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 21st so please note the date! On the agenda will be Fruit Sales, Beef Weigh-In, enrollment, and Share-the-Fun/Spring Workshop. If you would like anything additional on the agenda, please contact the Extension office.

Ambassador Meeting

Are you interested in being an Ambassador? Are you in 6th grade or above this year? You want to become a great leader? Then this is a perfect time for you to get involved in the starting of Mille Lacs County Ambassador program. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 22nd at 6:30 pm at the Mille Lacs County Courthouse. At our first meeting we picked the regular meeting time of before the Federation meetings. Please contact the Extension office if you would like more information or you are interested and are unable to attend.

4-H Ski and Snowboard Days

4-H club members and their families may ski or snowboard anytime between the hours of 9:00 am to 10:00 pm on Saturday (January 19th or 26th) or between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm on Sunday (January 20th or 27th) at Powder Ridge. The rates are:

	4-H Rate	Regular Rate
Ticket	$18.00	$36.00
Ski Rental Equipment	$14.00	$22.00
Snowboard Rental Equipment	$20.00	$26.00
Helmet Rental	$5.00	$7.00

Beginner ski and snowboard lessons are offered to 4-H participants at a cost of $5.00 per person for a one hour group lesson (regularly $15.00). They strongly suggest you take advantage of lessons if you are a first time participant.

The number of 4-H skiers and snowboarders each day is limited so make sure to make your reservations early to guarantee a spot for your group. Reservation forms will be mailed to club leaders.

Minnesota 4-H State Horse Winter Roundup

You won't want to miss this fun opportunity to learn more about the Minnesota 4-H Horse Project activities available to 4-H youth. Winter Roundup January 25-27, 2013 at Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer. Full conference fee includes three days and two nights of learning, sharing information, and having fun! Conference fees will be supplemented again this year by the Minnesota 4-H Horse Association.

Sessions on Horse Project areas will be geared toward new 4-H parents/leaders, veteran leaders, and **junior youth leaders**. Older youth (**8th grade & above**) may attend, however this will be intense leader training with very few recreational activities provided.

- Registrations postmarked by January 7, 2013 $60.00
- Registrations postmarked January 8th-14th, 2013 $80.00
- Any one day same as full fee
- Registrations will not be accepted if postmarked after January 14th **

Please call or e-mail Amy Boeckermann at 218-828-2300, boeck008@umn.edu or Renee Kostick at 218-232-5174, hinkx001@umn.edu with any questions about fees and /or deadlines.

During your Friday through Sunday stay you will be provided: Friday evening pizza party, 5 meals, 2 nights stay, lots of information on the Minnesota 4-H Horse Project, great info and ideas from our keynote Speaker, a chance to meet new friends, and **FUN**!

Don't wait! First come, first served! Complete the registration form and mail it back. For more information, call Renee Kostick at 218-232-5174 or hinkx001@umn.edu or youth chairs Alex Schonnesen or Samantha Stahnke. Registration deadline: January 14, 2013.

Llama Project Meeting

Interested in llamas? Do you want to know more about the llama project? Please come and join us. On the agenda is planning (what you need to do when) and exploring llama show classes in detail. This meeting is Thursday, January 24th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Mille Lacs County Courthouse.

LQA&E Trainer Webinar

A one hour update webinar for all new LQA&E trainers AND trainers that feel they need a refresher course has been set for Saturday, January 26th, 10-11 a.m. Trainers who participated in the webinars in any of the past 4 years DO NOT need to participate in this webinar.

If interested in becoming an LQA&E trainer or participating in the webinar, please contact your 4-H Program Coordinator!

Poultry Workshop

Are you a member in the poultry project, interested in learning more about the project or are you brand new and just want to check out poultry? The Poultry Workshop will be held on Saturday, January 26th at Armed Forces Center (near Cambridge Community College). This morning workshop will have speakers from across the state to present on a wide variety of topics in the poultry project. There will be something for everyone whether you are an experienced poultry producer or just checking out the project. Information and registration forms are available at the Isanti County Extension Office.

PICCKMW Camp Counselors

The applications for PICCKMW Camp Counselors are now available. If you are in 9th grade or higher you are eligible to apply for this fun filled leadership opportunity. This year camp will be held June 24-26, 2013 at St. Croix State Park. There are monthly meetings and two overnights as part of the camp commitment. Applications are due January 31st and can be found at: http://z.umn.edu/picckmwcampcounselorpack. If you have any contact the Extension Office. The first camp counselor overnight will be held on Feb 22-23.

Fruit Sales

We will be selling fruit again this year and forms will be coming in the mail towards the end of January so be sure to watch your mail for them!

Western Heritage

Join the fun of Western Heritage! Western Heritage is an activity offered through the horse project to learn more about our western heritage including safety, sportsmanship and having fun. Western Heritage includes goat tying, roping, sorting and much more! The first meeting of Western Heritage will be on February 5th at 6:30 pm at BMW stables (29465 Rendova Street, Isanti, 55040). The meeting in February will be without horses. If you have questions or need more information please feel free to contact Lois or Wayne Boettcher at (763) 444-0420 or wlboettcher@gmail.com. We also do welcome youth from around the region to join us!

4-H Judges Training - Brainerd

Have you have ever considered becoming a 4-H judge? If you answered YES….come learn the 4-H Conference Judging System of non-livestock projects on Saturday, February 23, in Brainerd! For additional information on how to register contact your county Extension office, or http://z.umn.edu/judgestrainingform. Registration deadline is February 15th!

BBOP

Mark your calendar for the most fun 16½ hours in February! Take part in fun activities, hang out with fellow 4-H'ers from around the region and learn more about different animals all during BBOP! Isanti County 4-H Ambassadors are planning for BBOP which is an overnight adventure to learn about all of the various livestock projects. Mark your calendar for February 22nd from 6:00 pm until Saturday, February 23rd at 10:30 am. More information will be coming out shortly!

2013 NE 4-H Livestock Show Dates

The dates of the 2013 NE 4-H Livestock Show have been set for September 14 & 15, at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds, Brainerd, MN.

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Winter is now upon us! Reminder that 4-H events will be cancelled if any of the following conditions are met:

- Schools are closed for the day or close early
- Temperatures are at least -30F and/or the wind chill is -50F
- If travel is not advised
- If in doubt listen to KBEK 95.5 for cancellations

Remember that safety is our top concern! Always lean to the side of more caution when in doubt.

Dear 4-H families and volunteers:

Happy New Year! I hope that 2013 brings you peace, joy and prosperity.

Throughout January, 4-H youth across Minnesota will be thanking 4-H supporters, and sharing stories of how 4-H has made a difference in their lives and communities.

One of the ways 4-H youth make a difference in their communities is through community service projects and events. The principles of citizenship and civic engagement are integral to 4-H. For more than 100 years, 4-H members have been making a difference by proactively addressing challenges in their communities. As part of the Citizenship Mission Mandate, every 4-H program across the nation has a strong history of designing, delivering and implementing educational programs and activities related to community service, youth volunteerism and service-learning.

This year, the annual Martin Luther King Day of Service is on ***Monday, January 21***. I encourage 4-H volunteers and youth to plan a community service project, event or activity either on that day, during that week or throughout the month. The MLK Day of Service is about more than a one-day service project – it is about connecting people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities in a shared commitment to making a difference in their communities. It is also a great opportunity to let people know how youth in 4-H learn to be active, engaged citizens and leaders–not just on one day, but throughout the year.

For more information about the MLK Day of Service, go to: http://mlkday.gov/.

Sincerely, Dorothy M Freeman

Re-enroll by January 15

Don't miss out! 4-H youth and volunteers need to re-enroll by ***January 15***. Re-enrollment remains open after January 15, but the longer you wait, the more you miss out on, including critical communications.

The re-enrollment task should be significantly shorter this year because previously entered information will carry over into the new 4-H year. However, it is CRITICALLY IMPORTANT that families review and update enrollment information, especially health and emergency contact information. If you have forgotten your password, you can request to have it sent to you at the main login screen at mn.4honline.com.

New (first time) 4-H youth members can enroll online using the link above, but must mail a signed copy of the Authorization Statements to Extension staff. The Authorization Statement document can be downloaded from www.4-h.umn.edu/policies/4H-member-authorization-form.pdf and mailed to your county or regional office. You will find "Quick Start" and "Detailed Instructions" links on the login page to guide you through the enrollment process.

New (first time) 4-H Adult Volunteers must complete the three step 4-H Volunteer Screening process in order to serve as a 4-H volunteer. Instructions and forms are available at www.4-h.umn.edu/volunteer/#application. Screening is a separate process from enrolling. Complete information and support resources can be found online at www.4-h.umn.edu/4honline.

Last Chance for BLU

Registration for the 2013 BLU (Building Leadership & Understanding) events is due to your Extension office by ***January 7***! Don't miss the opportunity to join the State 4-H Ambassadors in learning about respect at this year's event!

Youth grades 6-13 are invited to participate; non-4-H members are welcome too. The events will be filled with hands-on activities for youth to learn and practice valuable skills related to leadership. Choose the BLU location near you:

- **Minneapolis North**, Crown Plaza; Saturday, ***February 2-3, 2013***
- **Mankato,** AmericInn, ***February 9-10, 2013***
- **Bemidji**, Hampton Inn & Suites, ***March 2-3, 2013***

The cost is $80 for all participants and chaperones. This covers all meals, lodging, activities, and supplies. A BLU retreat t-shirt is available for an additional $12 if ordered at the time of registration. A late fee of $20 per person will be added for registrations received after the deadline.

Chaperones will be needed! Please call the Extension Office if you are interested. Regions and/or counties must provide their own adults-in-charge and transportation to BLU. Adults must be 21 or older and be a screened 4-H volunteer.

Registration is due to the county Extension office by ***January 7, 2013***. The registration form is available online at www.4-h.umn.edu/county/millelacs. Click on 4-H in Mille Lacs County and look under forms. Additional information is available online at www.4-h.umn.edu/events/blu.

It's not too late to be an Early Bird: Register for the M4-HAVA Forum

The Minnesota 4-H Adult Volunteer Association will be held at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud on ***Feb. 14-16***. The Forum committee has planned exciting and educational workshops, as well as opportunities for 4-H volunteers (and staff) to get together with others from around the state to share ideas, learn new skills, develop and renew friendships, and have a lot of fun.

Forum registration includes meals and all sessions. "Early bird" registrations received by ***Jan. 15*** are just $85 for M4-HAVA members and $120 for non-members - that's $45 less than the regular rate! One-day registration is also available. Youth 9th grade and above register as an adult, while youth K-8 will register for "Kids Path" for just $65 per youth.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling the St. Cloud Kelly Inn at 320-253-0606. Mention that you are with 4-H to obtain the special event rate.

More information about this event, (including a description of Forum workshops) is available at the M4-HAVA website at www.m4-hava.org (Click on "upcoming events").

Are you looking for work experience in the youth development field?

Once again, there will be county-based 4-H summer intern positions throughout the State of Minnesota. The positions will be posted two different ways. Many will be advertised and hired through University of Minnesota Extension; however, some will be advertised and hired by local counties. Each internship position will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about University of Minnesota Extension and explore job opportunities in 4-H Youth Development. Most positions will be for ten or eleven weeks, with flexible starting dates.

Candidates must have a high school diploma, and at least two years of undergraduate study is preferred. University of Minnesota Extension hired candidates must apply on-line through the University of Minnesota job site. The application materials will include a standard application, résumé, cover letter, list of three references and a college transcript. The summer intern positions will be posted by mid-January at http://www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/jobs.html. The application deadline is ***February 22***.

For more information, please contact Michele VanDyke at mvandyke@umn.edu.

Online 4-H Volunteer Training

Volunteers can easily access the training and support they need to make a difference in the lives of Minnesota youth. This series of dynamic, interactive 30-minute online training modules will help volunteers build their volunteer skills and knowledge from home. These trainings are available to all adult screened volunteers, through https://mn.4honline.com/:

- Creating a welcoming 4-H environment: Engaging, encouraging, and respectful
- The 4-H learning environment
- 4-H project leaders: Where the action starts
- Managing 4-H clubs: A guide for club leaders
- Keeping youth safe in 4-H (Coming in later January)

To get a preview of each of the trainings, please visit: http://www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/volunteer/online-training/.

Shooting Sports & Wildlife Certification Trainings!

Mark your calendars now! Spring 2013 Training Dates:

- ***April 6-7***; Deep Portage ELC, Hackensack, MN
- ***April 13-14***; Faribault, MN

Information and registration forms for the spring trainings will be available ***February 1*** at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification. Registrations DUE ***March 22***.

2013 Project Bowls

Project Bowls are just around the corner! It is that time of year again when project bowl teams will begin practicing for the Regional Contests in March. There are opportunities for teams to form in dairy, dog, general livestock, horse, poultry, rabbit and wildlife. Two team contests are held - Junior (grades 3-8) and Senior (grades 4-12+). Check out the 4-H Project Bowl website at: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/project-bowl for rules, resources, and more information for the 2013 bowls. If you would like to coach, help coach or participate on any of these teams, please call your Extension office. Regional Bowl dates and locations are:

- ***March 2*** – Foley
- ***March 9*** – Farmington
- ***March 16*** – Grand Rapids
- ***March 16*** – Redwood Falls
- ***March 23*** – Snow Date
- ***April 20*** – State Bowl (Foley)

Save the Date for YELLO! 2013

Mark your calendars now for Youth Exploring Leadership & Learning Out Loud! (YELLO!) 2013! This year's event will be held ***June 10-13***, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Information from the 2012 event is available online at: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/yello/. Additional information on the 2013 event will be available in the early spring.

Citizenship Washington Focus

CWF is a citizen and leadership event for high school youth from across the United States. Youth learn about government, the legislative process, meet with elected officials and visit many national monuments and historical sites in Washington D.C.

- ***June 30 - July 6, 2013*** (Does not include travel dates) – National 4-H Conference Center, Washington D.C.
- Be sure to check out any County specific requirements and deadlines.

More information can be found at the following website at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/citizenship-washington-focus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Office Closed – New Year's Day – Jan. 1
- Shooting Sports & Wildlife Meeting – Jan. 4
- BLU Registration Due – Jan. 7
- Regional Horse Meeting – Jan. 12
- Horse Winter Roundup Registration Due – Jan. 14
- M4-HAVA Registration Due – Jan. 15
- 4-H Re-Enrollment Deadline – Jan. 15
- 4-H Ski Day, Powder Ridge – Jan. 19
- 4-H Ski Day, Powder Ridge – Jan. 20
- Closed – Martin Luther King Day Jr. Day – Jan. 21
- Ambassador Meeting, 6:30 pm – Jan. 22
- Federation Meeting, 7:00 pm – Jan. 22
- Animal Science PDC Meeting, follows Federation – Jan. 22
- Lama Project Meeting – Jan. 24
- Horse Winter Roundup, Spicer – Jan 25-27
- LQA&E Train-the-Trainer webinar – Jan. 26
- Poultry Workshop – Jan. 26
- 4-H Ski Day, Powder Ridge – Jan. 26

- 4-H Ski Day, Powder Ridge – Jan. 27
- Camp Counselor Applications Due – Jan. 31
- BLU, North Minneapolis – Feb. 2-3
- Western Heritage Meeting – Feb. 5
- BLU, Mankato – Feb. 9-10
- M4-HAVA Forum, St. Cloud – Feb. 14-16
- Market Beef ID Deadline – Feb. 15
- County Office Closed – President's Day – Feb. 18
- Summer Intern Application Deadline – Feb. 22
- BBOP – Feb. 22-23
- 4-H Judges Training – Feb. 23
- Project Bowl, Foley – March 2
- BLU, Bemidji – March 2-3
- Project Bowl, Farmington – March 9
- Project Bowl, Grand Rapids– March 16
- Project Bowl, Redwood Falls – March 16
- Shooting Sports Training Registration Due – March 22
- Project Bowl, Snow Date – March 23
- Shooting Sports Training, Hackensack – April 6-7
- National 4-H Conference – April 6-11
- Shooting Sports Training, Faribault – April 13-14
- Regional Horse Meeting – April 13
- State Project Bowl, Foley – April 20