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March 2019

Clover Connection Newsletter

**Thank You
Volunteers**



The Pledge

I Pledge...

My Head to Clearer Thinking

My Heart to Greater Loyalty

My Hands to Larger Services and

*My Health to better living for my club, my community, my
country and my world*

Let Others Know What Your Club Is Doing!

Would you like your club featured in the next Clover Connection? It is easy! Just e-mail Kerry at Kerry.hill@ces.uwex.edu with a short article telling just how awesome your club event was and attach a picture to go with it! Let people see what your club is up to, and how much fun club members had!

In This Month's Issue

- Becoming a 4-H Volunteer
- Horse Kick-Off Meeting
- Rabbit Workshop
- Sheep Kick-Off Meeting
- Quality Meets Kick-Off
- Polk County Fair Sign Contest
- Art Beat

Club Represented When the Money Gets Spent???

The Polk County 4-H Leaders Federation Board of Directors Is an Important Group for The Polk County 4-H Program. This Board Oversees the Program and Makes Important Decisions About How and Where the Financial Resources of the Program Are Spent. They Also Provide Direction for The Educational Programs. Each Club Can Send One Adult and One Youth Member as Representatives to The Board. Youth Have an Equal Voice at The Table. The Board Meets Six Times a Year.

MARCH 25, 2019 7PM B.L.
MAY 20, 2019 7PM FAIR PARK
JULY 15, 2019 7PM FAIR PARK



March 2019

March, 2019

Clover Connection

Dear 4-H Families and Friends:

March is here, and with it comes the hope of spring which after the February we have had will be a welcome change!! This month I wanted to share with you some leadership ideas for teens. Teen leaders are an important part of the 4-H program. Teens teach other youth information they learned in projects as well as role model leadership and behavior for other 4-H members. Youth leadership gives members a chance to help others and to grow and develop their own leadership skills. There is no “magic” age for a youth leader, but they should have demonstrated some success in project work, or expressed an interest in helping the club and other members. Many young people who have been 4-H members for two or three years are ready to expand their leadership role within their 4-H club. These members may have shown leadership qualities by serving as an officer or committee chair or through their project work. Sometimes, teens are looking for ways to become leaders, or ideas of teen leadership roles. Here are a few ideas...

Recruit two new members to the club - many young people today have very little knowledge about 4-H and know nothing about the variety of opportunities available to them through 4-H.

Serve as a mentor or big friend to a new member - many new members do not have siblings who are in 4-H or parents who are alumni. So they need help to get started on the “right foot” from the very beginning.

Suggest topics for talks/demonstrations in a particular project area - youth leaders can help generate a list of possible topics for talks or demonstrations in a project area.

Help members in developing and presenting a talk/demonstration - youth leaders might demonstrate a “well done” and a “could be improved” talk/demonstration for a group of members.

Assist members in the completion of their project records or “My 4-H Activities” sheet - youth leaders may help members individually or in small groups complete their project records.

Assist a project leader with one or more meetings for a project area - youth leaders may volunteer to help an adult project leader conduct one or more meetings in a particular project area in which they have had experience or training.

Conduct a project meeting for members - older members may feel confident enough in a project area that they would like to conduct a project meeting on their own.

Demonstrate the “face-to-face” judging concept for members - youth leaders can help members learn about judging standards, practice the questions that are often asked by the judge during face-to-face judging, and learn to evaluate their own work and progress.

Have fun trying one of these leadership roles, or come up with your own!

Chuck Prissel
4-H Youth Development Agent



March

- 2 Robotics Hands On Workshop: 9:30am, St. Croix Falls Public Library
- 4 New Club Organizational Leader Training- 6:30 p.m. Government Center
- 3 Sheep Project Kick-Off: 1-3:30pm, Justice Center
- 7 Volunteer V.I.P Training: 6:30pm, Polk City Government Center
- 11 Horse Project Kick Off Meeting: 6pm, Unity High School
- 16 Science Saturday! UW-Eau Claire Barron County- Rice Lake
- 19 Kirsten Konder Presentation: 6:30, Unity High School
- 19 Quality Meats Kick-Off: meeting right after Kirsten's informational presentation, Unity High School
- 25 Ambassador Management: 6pm, Polk County Government Center
- 25 4-H Leaders Federation: 7pm, Polk County Government Center

May

- 6 Dog Obedience Class
- 7 Dog Agility/Rally Class
- 10 Shooting Sports- Dino Hunt: 6-8pm, Balsam Lake Rod & Gun Club
- 13 Dog Obedience Class
- 14 Dog Agility/Rally Class
- 16 Photo Workshop: 6-8, Polk County Government Center
- 20 Dog Obedience Class
- 20 4H Amb. Mtg.
- 20 4H Leaders Federation Mtg. Meeting
- 21 Dog Agility and Rally Class
- 27 Dog Obedience Class
- 28 Dog Agility/Rally Class
- 31-1 Camp Councilor Training

2019 4-H CALENDAR

April

- 6 Performance Arts Fest: Turtle Lake High School
- 13 Cloverbud/Exploring Event: 9am-1pm, Civic Center in Amery
- 14 Rabbit Workshop: 2pm, Justice Center
- 16 Volunteer V.I.P Training: 6:30pm, Government Center
- 20 Dairy Judging Contest
- 24-25 JCEP Conference; Stevens Point
- 27 Dog Kick-Off 2pm-4pm
- 27 Sheep/Goat Weigh-In

It's Winter Again



It is that time of year again where winter weather can be very unpredictable. Due to any unforeseen weather conditions, some UW-Extension programs may cancel without notice. All 4-H meeting and activities that cancel due to weather will be announced at:

<http://polk.uwex.edu/office-information/meeting-notification/>

Evening program cancellations, done by 3:00 p.m.

Becoming a 4-H Volunteer

4-H Volunteers are valued partners in working with our youth and help make 4-H possible. In order to volunteer, previous 4-H Youth Development experience is not necessary. The most important qualification is a desire to work with young people and help them grow through educational experiences and gain positive life skills. Please consider sharing your time and talents!

Adult volunteers working together with youth make a difference in the lives of young people. Volunteers work with UW- Extension professionals to develop the life skills of youth members, thus benefiting the state, employers and the economy. Volunteers extend the resources of UW-Extensions as they work with staff to deliver educational programs.

VOLUNTEERING IS A PRIVILEGE!

How Does One Become a Volunteer?

If you have not already done so, go to Wisconsin 4HOnline and create a family profile. Instructions are on the <http://polk.uwex.edu> website under the 4-H enrollment tab. If your family is already in the system, DO NOT create a new family profile, just make sure you are entered into your family account and check that you want to be a 4-H volunteer. The state will complete a background check and GIS will contact you through e-mail requesting additional information needed on order for the state to conduct the background check and begin your Volunteer in Preparation (VIP) progress.

Another step in the process, you can take the Online Mandated Reporter Training for 4-H Volunteers. Please see the informational sheet included in the December 2018 Clover Connection, or visit the <http://polk.uwex.edu> website. You can also contact the Polk County Extensions Office at 715.485.8500 for assistance.

Once the background check is complete, and you have completed the Online Mandated Reporter Training for 4-H Volunteers, there is one more important step; taking the Volunteer in Preparation (VIP) Training! The Polk County Government Center will offer trainings at these specific dates and times:

Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Please contact Chuck at 715.485.8600 or Charles.prissel@ces.uwex.edu to register for the classes. Registration is required to ensure we have enough handout materials and to be able to contact you in case of cancellation due to weather or low enrollment.

NAME:

CLUB:

E-MAIL:

CELL PHONE #:



Did you know that 4-H forms, such as M.E Forms, Records Book Forms, Club Financial Records, etc., are all available right on your own computer!? They are all PDF's and are all printable or writeable. For your convenience, there is also a link to make sure you have the most recent Adobe Acrobat installed on your computer. Just follow the link: <http://polk.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications/>

True Leaders in Service and National Volunteer Appreciation Month!

This April, as part of True Leaders in Service and National Volunteer Appreciation Month, 4-H'ers across the nation will pledge their hands to larger services- leading positive change that empowers their peers and their communities. True Leaders in Service will officially kick-off the first day of April, and culminate with the National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

Join the thousands of 4-H'ers who will venture out into their communities to do what 4-H'ers do best: lead in service to tackle community challenges and help meet the needs of others. Sign up today to take part in True Leaders in Service.

<https://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/#!overview>

- Register your event(s)
- Download True Leaders in Service Tool Kit
 - Planning Guide
 - Logo
 - Media Template-2018

4-H Horse Project Annual Kickoff Meeting

WHO: All project members (Youth & Adults) should attend!

WHEN: Monday March 11, 2019

WHERE: Unity High School

SCHEDULE: 6:00-6:25pm check-in & pickup 2019 project booklet!

6:30pm Safety Clinic- attending is required for youth members; there will be one other opportunity in April if not able to attend this one.

6:45pm New Parent “orientation” Q&A (for those **NEW** to 4-H horse project.)

7:35pm General Project Meeting: Will introduce committee members

& coordinators for the project, overview of the **Horse Project Book**, important dates & form requirements, volunteering & fund-raising opportunities and Q&As.

Meet-N-Greet the project clinic coordinators- there will be tables/stations for parents to get more information about the upcoming clinics for the year and specific information on the various disciplines. IE: pleasure, gymkhana, jumping, trail, education team, horse camp, horseless horse and ranch versatility! The stations will also be “open” after the general meeting for anyone who did not get enough time either before or during the safety clinic.

NOTE- again, this year we will **NOT** be accepting Horse camp applications at the kickoff meeting. This is a chance for all members to gather more information about horse projects and learn more about camp. Applications will be available to pick up at the kickoff meeting **AND** it will be in the March clover connection **AND** online after March 12!

ATTN: Safety Clinic REQUIREMENT This Year!!

Project members who have qualified three consecutive years will be exempt from a safety clinic (age not a factor, just the three consecutive years of attending/qualifying). Project members who **DO NOT** meet the exemption **MUST** attend a safety clinic!

Polk Co 4-H Horse Project Facebook users- Just a reminder, another great way for all **CURRENT** enrolled project members and their parents to stay current on what is going on in the project!

You may request to join the project page by going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/polkcohorseproject/>



Art Bench Trail- Explore the St. Croix Valley Bench-By-Bench



www.artbenchtrail.org

Explore the St. Croix Valley Bench-by-Bench.

Visit these unique works of art, each created by local youth and community partners with a local artist.



There will be a rabbit workshop at the Polk County Government Center in Balsam Lake on April 14 at 2:00pm



NEEDED!

Teen Volunteers to work with National Park Rangers on Art and Nature Experiences for the Community!



This summer and fall, National Park Rangers will be offering hands-on activities exploring art, nature, and environmental science at more than a dozen community events in the St. Croix River Valley. Polk County 4-H Teen volunteers, in grades 7-12, are invited to support the Rangers at these events by interacting with the youth and families who participate in these “drop-in” hands-on programs. These free experiences will take place at the art benches on the Art Bench Trail (www.artbenchtrail.org) and each event will run between two and three hours.

Teen volunteers can sign up for one or multiple events, which are scheduled between mid-May through September. Sign-ups are on a first-come basis, with a maximum of three teen volunteers at each event. An end of summer kayak trip with a National Park Ranger will be your reward for volunteering your time and talents!

Events will take place in Osceola, St. Croix Falls, Somerset, Hudson, and Prescott in Wisconsin, and Carpenter Nature Center/Hastings, Bayport, and Marine on St. Croix in Minnesota. For a complete schedule, to learn more, and to sign up, contact Anastasia Shartin at The Phipps Center for the Arts, ashartin@thephipps.org, and 715.386.2305, ext. 103.

REMINDER!

Those who have signed up for the Robotics Workshop will have the opportunity to assemble, code and operate Lego EV3 Robots!

WHERE: St. Croix Falls Public Library

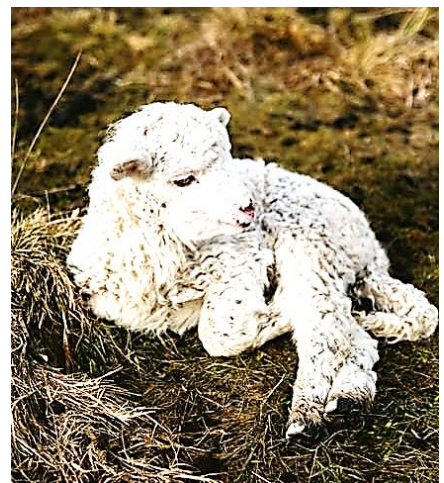
WHEN: Saturday March 2nd 2019 at 9:30am-12:30pm



SHEEP PROJECT MEMBERS

Plan Now to Attend the Sheep Project Kick-Off Meeting!
March 3, 2019 from 1-1:30 p.m. at the Polk County Justice Center

Youth leaders and members of the sheep committee will be on hand to present information relating to choosing sheep for the project and pointers on showing and caring for your sheep. Information will also be provided about the Sheep Premier Exhibitor Contest. The sheep committee members will meet with parents to answer questions relating to the project including classes and fair registration. Pre-registration is not necessary, however, if you are participating in the Quality Meats Program this does count as one of your educational events.



Polk County Quality Meats Announces 2019 Program Requirements

Youth wishing to participate in the 2019 Polk County Quality Meats Program must meet the following program requirements:

- Complete the YQCA "Youth for the Quality Care of Animals" online or classroom training. Club organizational leaders and co-leaders have more information on YQCA.
- Attend a Polk County Quality Meats kick-off meeting
- Attend an educational event or sessions

YQCA – Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

- ALL Quality Meats Exhibitors must bring their printed certificate to paperwork check-in Wednesday at the Fair in the livestock show barn office. Check-in concludes at 6pm.
- To complete the online course go to www.yqca.org and follow directions to register and take course – cost is \$12.
- Classroom training is available at a cost of \$3 at various locations in other counties. Register for these classroom courses at www.yqca.org.
- Questions can be directed to your species chair or vice chair.

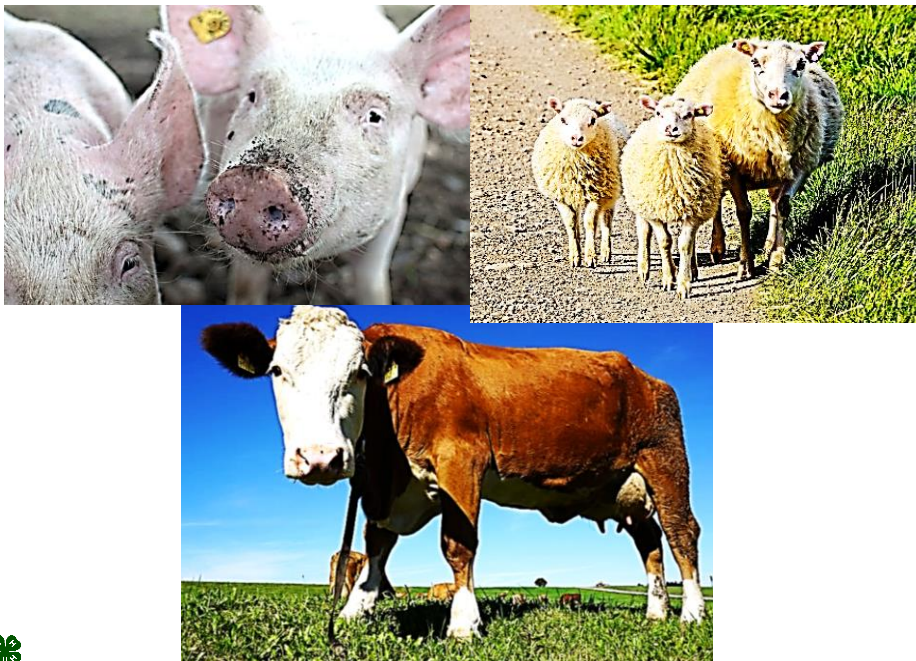
Polk County Kick-off meeting – Watch the Clover Connection, Quality Meats web page; <https://polk.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/quality-meats/>, and your email for a date coming in March.

Chair – Craig Scholz, Deer Park – 612.751.3236 – 4-H Beef Committee Chair
Vice Chair – Tim Swenson, Amery – 715.491. 8161 – 4-H Pork Committee Chair
Secretary – Pam Garvey, Centuria – 715.825.3229 – 4-H Goat Committee Vice-Chair
Brian Johnston, Milltown – 715.825.4496 –

4-H Sheep Committee Chair

Amy Lee, Dresser – 715.557.0758 – 4-H Sheep Committee Vice-Chair
Barry Black, Deer Park – 715.607.1108- 4-H Beef Committee Vice-Chair
Barry Elwood, Amery – 715.554.3783 – 4-H Pork Committee Vice-Chair
Tammy Brackee, Amery – 715.948.2475 –

4-H Goat Committee Chair



QUALITY MEATS KICK-OFF

WHEN: March 19 at 6:30p.m.

WHERE: Unity Performing Arts Center, Unity High School Balsam Lake, WI

MARK THIS IN YOUR CALENDARS!

Before the Quality Meats Kick-Off on Tuesday, March 19th, Kirsten Konder will be presenting at Unity High School Performing Arts Center. Kirsten is a Luck Ag/FFA Instructor; she will be going over an information presentation before the Kick-Off. This is a great opportunity to ask questions and gain new understanding about Ag. and FFA! After her presentation, the Quality Meats Kick-Off will resume as planned.



Spring Weigh-In for Goats & Sheep

The Polk County Quality Meats program will host a spring weigh-in and registration for sheep and goats on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 9am-11am (Please Note Short Time Frame.) Animals NEED to be castrated before this date! For complete Quality Meats Guidelines and information please see, <http://www.polk.uwex.edu>



What is Horse Camp?

Horse Camp is a 4 day, 3 night camp for 4-H Horse Project Members 4th grade and older. Horse Camp is held at the Polk County Fair Park in St. Croix Falls, WI.

Project members attend camp with their horses learning and gaining skills and confidence both in and out of the saddle. Each day Campers will attend sessions in various riding disciplines and some fun educational opportunities. Horse Camp is a wonderful time for our project members to not only improve their knowledge and skills while working with their horse, but also build some great memories with other horse loving youth! Youth Leader Camp Counselors guide campers through their week. Camp applications will be in the March issue and accepted BY US MAIL ONLY until March 31st. Remember, Horse Camp fills up quickly so please don't delay.

**Horse camp is June 11, 12, 13 and 14, 2019
CAMPERS MUST COMMIT TO ATTENDING
ALL 4 DAYS OF CAMP WITHOUT EXCEPTION.**



The Polk County Fair Board is again, sponsoring an outdoor sign contest to promote the Polk County Fair. The sign MUST be at least four feet by eight feet (4x8). You MUST include the Polk County fair dates, July 25, 26, 27 and 28th, at St. Croix Falls, and your club name must appear on the sign.

The sign needs to be up by July 1, the sign needs to be on private land, not on the road right of way, and you must get permission from the landowner. By July 20, please submit a color 8inx10in photograph of your sign and the location to,

Judy Bainbridge
2267 170th Street
Luck, WI 54853
Phone: 715.553.0801

Judging will focus on creativity and advertisement value, and the Polk County fair board will do all judging. Only new signs will be judged for the first place award of \$200, or the second place of \$100. All clubs that submit a photo will receive \$50 for one sign. All Polk County signs are to be By August 5.

The theme for this is **FUN FOR THE WHOLE HERD**

POLK COUNTY FAIR SIGN CONTEST



**ATTENTION! IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE
SO YET, PLEASE CASH IN YOUR FAIR
CHECKS!**

**If you have lost your fair check, please
contact Judy Bainbridge at 715.825.2207.
It is important that you cash your 2018
check or the fair will lose that amount of
money due to state regulations for 2018.
Help the fair- cash your check!!!**



Thursday - Sunday
July 25th - 28th
www.PolkCountyFair.com
2019



Can you hear the BEAT? What BEAT? ArtBEAT! What BEAT? ArtBEAT!

4-H ArtBEAT! was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5 and their parents and leaders and is the introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H Arts and Communication! ArtBEAT! will be held March 15 through 17, 2019, at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells. The weekend will feature a look at a variety of arts projects including music, drama, visual arts, and more! Camp check-in begins Friday, March 15 at 6:30 pm and runs through Sunday, March 17 at 11:00 am.



4-H members will have the opportunity to explore their own creativity while discovering a variety of 4-H Arts & Communication experiences available to them now and in the near future. Session leaders will be older 4-H youth, adult leaders and 4-H staff members with a wealth of experience to share. Youth and adult participants will rotate through a variety of sessions, which are hands-on and active and held at various sites throughout camp. Along with exploring the "arts," participants will also have a chance to discover Upham Woods! Both youth and adult participants stay in the warm and cozy heated cabins!

Parents are not required to attend, but are invited. All adults attending the camp MUST be active 4-H leaders who are going to be considered adult advisors (chaperones) responsible for providing leadership and support for ALL campers. As such, all adults who want to attend the camp must complete the requirements to become a 4-H leader before camp and participate in an Adult Advisor Orientation Teleconference on Monday, March 4 at 7 p.m. Interested adults who are not already active 4-H volunteers should contact their county UW-Extension 4-H Office as soon as possible for assistance in completing the process to become a volunteer. The process involves VIP Training and a background check. The \$100.00 per person fee (youth and adults) will include all materials and supplies (including a very cool ArtBEAT! backpack), overnight lodging, meals, and snacks.

Why not get a whole carload of youth and adults together from your county for some genuine 4-H FUN? Transportation to the camp is NOT provided by the State 4-H Office.

Come join the excitement of this opportunity available to our most enthusiastic and creative 4-H members! REGISTER EARLY! This camp

fills up fast and registration is first come, first serve! Registration will open in 4H Online on December 20, 2018 and will close on January 31, 2019. Upham Woods is able to accommodate 120 participants. Once registration is filled, participants can register to be on a WAITLIST.

IMPORTANT: Please read ALL of the application requirements/instructions at <https://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4harts/art-beat-forms/> BEFORE completing the online application at <http://wi.4honline.com>

For additional information check out: <https://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4harts/artbeat-more-info/>

For more information, contact: Lynn Pfeiffer, 4-H Communication Arts Program Assistant at 608-262-1222 lynn.pfeiffer@ces.uwex.edu or Amber Rehberg, WI 4-H Educational Programs Specialist, at 608-262-1557 amber.rehberg@ces.uwex.edu.

Cloverbud & Explorer Fun Day!

WHEN: Saturday, April 13 at 9am-1pm

WHERE: Amery Community Center (608 Harriman Ave S, Amery, WI 54001)

Please join us for this fun, free event. Everyone will have something to take home and there are several activities planned. Try your hand at making paper airplanes. See which one flies the furthest! Do you have green thumbs? Come show us! Decorate a pot and plant some seeds. If you do not feel like planting, come and make a card or decorate a T-shirt. Animal stamps and track stencils will be available. Please bring a light colored shirt to decorate. (100% cotton works the best). We will be providing a light lunch, so please RSVP.

Bring a friend! They do not have to be in 4-H. Parents, please feel free to join in the fun.

RSVP by calling the Extension Office at (715) 485-8600 so that we can plan to have enough for everyone.



Performance Art Festival Date Set!

Once again, Polk and Barron Counties are joining up to host a Performance Art Festival on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at Turtle Lake High School. Like the last several years, this event is a combined pre-fair performance opportunity for premiums (like the Music, Drama and Dance Revues of the past) and a club performance opportunity for non-premiums (like the Talent Explosions of the past) all rolled into one performance arts extravaganza!

Registration forms for pre-fair performances are available in this newsletter and registration forms for club performances are in the Club Organizational mailing.

Youth wishing to have their individual or duet music, dance or speaking events as part of the 2019 Polk County Fair will in addition to registering for the April event, need to include it on their fair entry form due in June. For more information, see the Polk County website or your club leader. If you have questions, please contact Chuck at Charles.prissel@ces.uwex.edu or call at 715.485.8600

