

DECEMBER 2019

POLK COUNTY
NEWSLETTER

THE CLOVER CONNECTION



COMPLETE 4-H ENROLLMENT BY
DECEMBER 1ST!!!!

We encourage ALL 4-H members to complete your enrollment for 2019-2020 by December 1, 2019. Wondering "Why?" Here are the top 5 reasons:

- 1) Members will be covered by our 4-H insurance at 4-H events.
- 2) Families will get the newsletter. (Mailing labels for newsletters are taken from 4-H online)
- 3) Members can receive broadcast emails about 4-H events. (We can broadcast emails through 4-H online)
- 4) Leaders will have a list of all members in the club
- 5) You will not have to worry about enrolling at the last minute and potentially make mistakes that will impact your fair entry.

**PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR
ENROLLMENT TODAY!!**

ATTENTION!!

This will be your last newsletter if you do not complete your enrollment in December!! January's Newsletter will use the new address labels!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- ~ Re-enroll
- ~ Letter from Chuck
- ~ 4-H Calendar
- ~ Club Represented when the Money gets Spent
- ~ Organizational Leader Training
- ~ Quiz Bowl
- ~ Steer Weigh In
- ~ Attention Club Managers and Organizational Leaders
- ~ Woolly Mammoth Trail Ride
- ~ How to become a 4-H Volunteer

4-H FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!!

Did you know that more 4-H forms, such as M.E. forms, Record Book Forms, Club Financial Records, etc., are all available right on your own computer? Just follow the link:

<https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications/>

Select the category and print out what you need! These forms are still available from the Extension Office for your convenience.





CLOVER CONNECTION

November, 2019

Dear 4-H Families and Friends:

These wet cool fall days will soon give way to colder weather, shorter days, and snow. With shorter days, 4-H members and leaders can focus on all the upcoming 4-H events and activities scheduled for the winter months. All the 4-H Project Committees will meet this month to plan the 2020 4-H Year!! Now is the time to get involved in a project committee and help shape the events and activities for Polk County 4-H members. See the inside of the newsletter for more details.

Why Wait To Re-enroll?? A reminder that 4-H enrollments and re-enrollments should be done now before the December 1 deadline (Information is available at wi.4honline.com.) The process of enrolling or re-enrolling is easy and information was shared with families at club meetings and can be viewed at <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/> under 4-H enrollments. Club organizational leaders or “Club Managers” need to accept members and leaders after enrollment and then our office has to verify records. Adult volunteers must have completed the ***VIP Volunteers In Preparation*** Training and process for new volunteers in order to have their enrollments active. **Volunteer leaders must re-enroll each year in order to keep their 4-H volunteerism current.** If you are in need of enrollment assistance, please contact our office. **Project enrollments are due in the on line system by December 1st, and projects can be added or changed up until April 15. KEEP THESE DEADLINES IN MIND.**

Many new families are now joining our program and we welcome them! We all need to work to ensure these new families feel welcome and have the information they need to succeed in 4-H and your help is appreciated. 4-H can seem complicated, with all the rules, terms, and deadlines. Maybe your family would be willing to mentor a new family that has joined your club and help them understand some of the ins and outs of the program. Make this a discussion at your next club meeting so that new families are getting the answers and help they need. Don't forget all the resources that are available on the county website and state 4-H website – <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/>

In celebration, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the 4-H Award recipients who were recognized on Sunday, October 20th at the annual 4-H Awards event in Amery. Best wishes to all the youth who have completed their 4-H time as members through 4-H Graduation and now can contribute to 4-H as Alumni! Thank you to the 4-H Ambassadors for hosting the event and helping with all the set-up and teardown. It was a good day to thank all volunteers who work with our youth to make this one of the best 4-H programs in Wisconsin.

Enjoy the changing seasons and thank you for all the work you do for Polk County 4-H youth!!

Sincerely,

Chuck Prissel
4-H Youth Development Agent

December

- 1- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 2- Registration for the Organizational Leader Training on the 3rd is DUE!
- 3- Organizational Leader Training, 6:30pm at the Government Center
- 5- Polk County Fair Board Meeting, Gov. Center, 7pm
- 8- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 9- Horse Comm. Meeting, Gov. Center, 7pm
- 12- 4-H Program Zoom at 9am
- 22- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 24-25 **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!** Extension Office Closed
- 29- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm



January

- 1- **HAPPY 2020!!!** Extension Office Closed
- 5- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 9- 4-H Program Area Zoom
- 11- Trail Bike Ride, Woolly Mammoth Trail in S.C.F, 10am
- 12- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 16- 4-H Town hall Zoom, 7pm
- 23- V.I.P New Leader Training, 6:30pm Government Center
- 23- Fair Board Meeting, Government Center
- 26- Quiz Bowl Practice, Polk County Justice Center, 2pm-4pm
- 27- Ambassador Meeting, 6pm Government Center
- 27- 4-H Leaders Board Meeting, 7pm
- 27- 4-H Leaders Federation Board Meeting, Government Center, 7pm



February

- 15- Robotics Workshop, Saint Croix Falls School, 9am-1pm
- 18- Dog Project Meeting, Village Pizzeria in Dresser, 6:30pm
- 25- VIP Training, Balsam Lake Government Center, 6:30pm



MARCH

- 14- Science Saturday at UW-Eau Clair in Barron County
- 23- 4-H Ambassador Meeting, Government Center, 6pm
- 23- 4-H Leaders Federation Board Meeting, Government Center, 7pm
- 29- Photography Workshop, Amery Community Center, 2-4pm

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

It's 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 have to be cancelled due to weather will be announced at:

<https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/office-information/meeting-notification/>

Evening program cancellations will be done by 3:00 p.m.



WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR CLUB?

Would you like your Club featured in the next Clover Newsletter? It's simple! Write up a short article telling us just how fun your club's event was and make sure to include a picture with the names of the members featured. Let us and other clubs know the good work you are doing in the community! To share your club's story please email me at:

kerry.hill2@wisc.edu



CLUB REPRESENTED WHEN THE MONEY GETS SPENT



The Polk County 4-H Leaders Federation Board of Directors is a very important group for the Polk County 4-H program. This board oversees the program and makes very important decisions about how and where the financial resources of the program get spent. They also provide direction for the educational programs. Is your club being represented?? 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 and the meeting dates for this 4-H calendar year are:

Jan. 27th, 2020 7pm at B.L.

Mar. 23rd, 2020 7pm at B.L.

May 18th, 2020 7pm at Fair Park

July 20th, 2020 7pm at Fair Park

“Not everybody can be famous but everybody can be great because greatness is determined by service... You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love.”
~ Martin Luther King Jr.

Organizational Leader Training 101b Tuesday, December 3, 6:30 P.M.

If you are a new Organizational Leader or just need an update on using 4-H Online, plan to attend the Organization Leader Training 101b. We will be covering 4-H Online Club Manager and Club Project procedure, reports, and resources available through 4-H Online. This training would also be helpful for County Project Committee leaders. If time allows, we will look at club and committee by-laws.

Register by email to eileen.vandyk@wisc.edu or call the Extension Office at 715-485-8600. Registrations due Monday, December 2.



THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER GREAT AWARDS EVENT!



Thank you so much all of you who came out to the 4-H awards program. There are some packets with awards and certificates that still need to be picked up.

Joel Jets
Knotty Pine
Scenic View
McKinley Vikings
Bronco Busters (1 Record Book)

Please call the Extension Office before picking up your packets

OFFICE TRAINING MATERIALS



Now is the time for new officers to brush up on their leadership skills and to learn the responsibilities of an officer. Listed here are descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of each of the 4-H club officers. These resources should help club members perform their officer duties effectively and improve their leadership skills. Officer materials are available online at Wisconsin 4-H Community Club Central at the following link:

[https://
fyi.extension.wisc.edu/
wi4hvolunteers/clubs-and-
groups/4-h-club-and-
groupcommittee-
management/4-h-club-
officer-and-youth-leader-
training-resources/](https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wi4hvolunteers/clubs-and-groups/4-h-club-and-groupcommittee-management/4-h-club-officer-and-youth-leader-training-resources/)

President – Agendas & Facilitating Group Discussion

Vice President – Creating Club Calendar & Committees

Secretary – Meeting Minutes

Treasurer – Checkbook Balancing Basics and Financial Responsibility

Reporter – How to Write a Press Release

The 4-H program encourages members to use basic parliamentary procedures for their club business meetings. The Parliamentary Procedures brochure, also available online, defines parliamentary procedures and the steps in making club decisions.

Each club members – not just the officers – need to become familiar with the basics so they can contribute to their clubs business meetings effectively. If you have questions regarding Parliamentary Procedure or Officer Duties contact Chuck Prissel at charles.prissel@wisc.edu

LIVESTOCK QUIZ BOWL & SKILLATHON

Interested in learning about livestock, want to have FUN, and compete at the same time then Livestock Quiz Bowl and Skill-a-thon are for you. Practices will be held on Sundays from 2-4 pm at the justice center in Balsam Lake.

Snacks and drinks will be provided at the practices. Participants will also receive credit for their educational require-

ment for the Polk County Quality Meats project.

Competition in Quiz Bowl & Skillathon encourages members to develop a more complete knowledge of animals and related subjects. This contest provides an educational program for all project members, including those who may not own a project animal, and provides a way to develop self-confidence. The contest will be divided into junior (grades 3-8), senior (grades 9-13) divisions and a mixed team division where the team must contain at least one youth in each age division.



Participating 4H members are eligible to compete in the state competition on a Saturday in early March, date has not been set by the state at this time. Please contact Craig Scholz for more information or if you are interested in participating.

Craig Scholz
polkcountyqualitymeats@live.com
612-751-3236

QUIZ BOWL PRACTICE WILL BE LOCATED AT THE POLK COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER ON SUNDAYS, 2PM-4PM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

NOVEMBER 24

DECEMBER 1, 8, 22 AND 29

JANUARY 5, 12 AND 26

THESE DATES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!!

EXPLORING PROJECT FOR FIRST YEAR MEMBERS

If you are joining a 4-H club and you are in 3rd grade or if you are a 4th grader and joining 4-H for the first time you are considered an EXPLORER, and you should enroll in Exploring as your only project.

You can also enroll in another project or two, like Horse if you are planning on doing horse activities so that you can be included in horse event information. Exploring is set up that way for first year members so that they can “Explore” a wide variety of areas in 4-H so that the next year, you can enroll in those areas for projects. You are only an Explorer for one year. Exploring

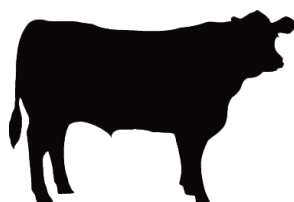
is just for that first year in grades 3 or 4.

If you have questions about Exploring or any area in 4-H, please contact the Polk County Extension Office at Charles.prissel@wisc.edu or call the Extension Office at 715.485.8600.



ATTN: BEEF PROJECT MEMBERS! QUALITY MEATS WEIGH-IN

The Polk County Quality Meats Committee will host a Steer Weigh-In on **Saturday, December 7th from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Polk County Fair Park. Steers must be halter-broken.**



Some changes may be implemented for the 2019-20 program and more information will be shared as it becomes available. Please visit the Polk County Extension website at <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/quality-meats/> to ensure that you are kept current of new rules and regulations for the 2019-2020 program.

Horse Project Committee Meeting!! Leaders We Need YOU!!

The Polk County 4-H Horse project committee will meet on Monday December 9, at 7pm at the Government Center in Balsam Lake. Officer elections will take place at this meeting. Many adult volunteers are needed in order to continue with a successful project. All are welcome to attend and voice your thoughts and suggestions. We are in need of adults for officer positions.



Woolly Mammoth Trail Ride!!

What: Mountain Biking Event

When: January 11, 2020 starting at 10am

Where: Woolly Mammoth trail head in St. Croix Falls, WI (Lincoln Dr., St. Croix Falls, WI 54024)

Who: Anyone who owns a fat tire bike is welcome to come for a fun day of trail riding

Why: A great opportunity to meet new friends that share the same interest as you!



Belong, Mastery, Generosity and Independence are the 4 Essential Elements of Positive Youth Development that are focused online 4-H Youth Development.



Would you like to learn more and how they relate to your role as a leader working with youth?

Check out how you as an adult volunteer or youth leader can foster the development of these elements in the youth. You will have an opportunity to:

- * Learn about each element in relation to different age youth from kindergarten to high school.
- * Consider how you can develop life skills in youth
- * Build on what you know to foster the growth of these elements in young people

Each module is about 7-10 minutes in length. You move through the modules at your own pace. It will take you about 30-45 minutes to complete all four modules.

For more information on how to access these training opportunities in 4Honline, please visit:

<https://4h.uwex.edu/files/2018/08/4HOnline-Essential-Elements-Training-For-4H-Volunteers.pdf>

CLUB MANAGERS & ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS

If you are the club manager/organizational leader who is responsible for confirming your club members you must:



Follow the “4Honline – Club Managers guidelines included with this newsletter in the club organizational packets.

1. Log in following directions using the password that is listed on the directions.
2. Check your membership and make sure that each of your members is enrolled in the correct categories (such as: **Cloverbuds – K-2 ONLY; Exploring – 3rd graders – (unless you are in 4-H for the first time as a 4th graders) – you would then also be an EXPLORER (if you are in 5th grade you must choose projects).**
3. Delete old projects or check with your member – (if Exploring still shows up and your member is now a regular 4-H members – **delete exploring for the current year.**)
4. After you have gone through the membership – then confirm each member/leader.

If you do not confirm your members at the club level, the county cannot confirm them in your club and they will not receive any mailings or newsletters until they are confirmed.

REMINDER – If you are changing clubs you cannot change them yourself – you MUST call Eileen at the Extension office at 715.485.8600 to have it changed.

NOMINATION FOR THE JAMES W. CROWLEY 4-H DAIRY LEADERSHIP AWARDS AND NATIONAL 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE

DUE: DECEMBER 15, 2019

The James W. Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award program provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project. The James W. Crowley Management and Extension Fund is the sponsor of the award. A special engraved medallion will be presented to the outstanding 4-H dairy project member in each county. County Award winners are eligible to compete for 15 state-wide awards. State winners will receive plaques plus partial scholarships to the 2020 National 4-H Dairy Conference. In addition, the top two youth in the state competition will each receive \$500 awards for continuing their dairy education.

SELECTION

Selection of the Leadership Award will be done by the Polk County 4-H Leaders Federation, Inc. Dairy Committee.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Must be currently enrolled in the 4-H Dairy Project and have at least two previous years of membership in it.
2. Must be in 10th - 12th grades as of January 1, 2020.
3. Should have an outstanding record of involvement and accomplishments in the 4-H Dairy Project.

1. NOMINATION

Name of 4-H Member: _____ Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone (____) _____ County: _____

2. MEMBER'S SUMMARY

Please answer the following questions briefly but as completely as possible.

Years in 4-H: _____ Years with Dairy Project: _____ Breed: _____

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Purebred</u>
Number of animals carried this year in the 4-H Dairy Project:	_____	_____
Number of animals owned this year in the 4-H Dairy Project:	_____	_____
Number of animals in the family-milking herd:	_____	_____



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 Extension professionals to develop the life skills of youth members, thus benefiting the state, employers, and the economy. Volunteers extend the resources of Extension 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 can be found on the polk.extension.wisc.edu website under the 4H 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. A background check will be conducted on you by the state **and you will be contacted by 4hvolunteers@ohr.wisc.edu through e-mail requesting additional information needed in order for the state to conduct the background check and begin your Volunteer in Preparation (VIP) process.**

Another step in the process, you can take the required **Online Mandated Reporter Training for 4-H Volunteers**. Please see the informational sheet included in this November 2019 Clover Connection or visit the <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/> website. You can also contact the Polk County Extension Office at

715.485.8600 for assistance.

Once the background check is successfully completed and you have completed the Online Mandated Reporter Training for 4-H Volunteers, **there is one more important step in the process; taking the Volunteer in Preparation (VIP) Training!** Trainings will be offered at the Polk County Government Center on the following dates and times:

Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Please contact Chuck or Kerry at 715.485.8600 or Charles.prissel@wisc.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 the class is cancelled due to weather or low enrollment.

Name: _____

Club: _____

E-mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____

University of Wisconsin - Extension
Polk County Office
100 Polk Plaza, Suite 190
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Nonprofit
Permit No. 9



December Newsletter



The University of Wisconsin-Extension provides Title IX requirements, which include affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, arrest or conviction record or veteran status.

Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are confidential (ADA requirements).

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
POLK COUNTY