

4-H Connections

A NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H VOLUNTEERS AND FAMILIES ■ Late Summer 2008

Also available on the web at: <http://www.umaine.edu/umext/york/>

York County 4-H Leaders Association

The next meeting of the York County 4-H Leaders Association will be on September 8 at the Extension Office in Springvale at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there. This will be an important meeting to help us evaluate the Acton Fair and look towards next year in 4-H.

July and August Birthdays

Calli-Ann Leach
 Jack Bardwell
 Mia Murray
 Maleek Gillard
 Isabel Leahy
 Carl Hill Jr
 Kendra Miller
 Logan Gupstill
 Kathleen Brown
 Katherine Trask
 David Higgins
 Elizabeth Peverill
 Alexander Cole
 Mariah Joiner
 Caleb Miller
 Nicholas Parks
 Matthew Macgown
 Hannah Geaumont
 Sierra Donnelly
 Mikayla Berquist
 Julianna Grondin
 Ashley St.Pierre
 Nicholas Thompson
 William Benoit
 Robert Chessie
 Jordan Gattine
 Robert Landry


4-H Calendar 	
August 8-10	Bryant Pond Wilderness Survival Camp
August 10	4-H Day at the Skowhegan State Fair
August 21-24 Sept. 1	Acton Fair UMCE Closed– Labor Day
Sept. 28– Oct. 5	Fryeburg Fair
October 23-26	Northeast Regional Volunteer Forum

The Acton Fair Food Booth

All shifts are covered!! Thank you to Deb and Deanna. Club leaders need to get a list of people working in the food booth in your clubs to her by Tuesday August 20th. This will allow her to give a list to the gate so food booth workers get in free! Contact Deb: 752-2668 or debbi@kennebunklaw.com

The clubs working the 6:00 Am to 11:00 shifts do not need to contact her; the gate is not manned that early.

Fair Reminders:

-  **GET YOUR LIVESTOCK FORM IN!!**
 Livestock forms were due August 1. Without them you will not be able to show.

❁ 18 Year old 4-H Members do not constitute an adult staying with the animals at the fair. A parent or guardian MUST be there with the 4-H member. There have been problems in the past and we do not expect any this year.

❁ 4-H Sheep members showing in 4-H are expected to show in open also. Contact Diane Qualey with questions: dqualey@umext.maine.edu

Project Records

Don't forget to keep working on those project records. Before you know it, it will be time to judge them. If you ever need blank records you can find them on our website at: <http://www.umaine.edu/umext/york/4H/form%20page.htm>

Independents – your quarterly reports were due on July 1. Do I have them? If not please get them in ASAP! ☺ Lynn

New 4-H Member Enrollment Policy

The following is the new 4-H Member enrollment policy that is being proposed to the PLT for final approval in August. This policy will be hopefully put into effect as of October 1, 2008.

C.1.2 Eligibility for Enrollment

Any individual who meets the age requirements for 4-H enrollment may enroll as a 4-H member in Maine and participate fully in any and all 4-H programs appropriate to their age and capabilities conducted by the Maine 4-H Youth Development Program, including individuals who live outside the State of Maine.

Renewing members and clubs are expected to re-enroll between October 1 and December 31 each year. New members may enroll at any time. However, both new and re-enrolling members must be enrolled by December 31 to participate in events and activities such as, but not limited to, state-wide market animal auctions, Eastern States Exposition competitions, National 4-H Congress,

National 4-H Conference, and to be eligible for 4-H post-secondary scholarships.

In order to participate in county fairs, re-enrolling members are expected to meet the December 31 deadline and new members should be enrolled by April 1. See the county educator for additional details.

How are Maine 4H Policies Made?

Have you ever wondered how Maine 4H policies are created and amended? Maine 4H is guided by committed staff and volunteers at several levels.

National 4H Headquarters: Part of the US Department of Agriculture, National 4H Headquarters provides overall program and policy direction to State 4H programs.

State of Maine 4H Program Leadership Team (PLT): The Maine 4H PLT is comprised of all UMaine Cooperative Extension staff including all county-based 4H educators and/or professionals, and state 4H and related specialists and professionals. Through its committee structure, the Maine 4H PLT provide 4H program direction and consistency throughout the state. It also creates policies, procedures and guidelines which are documented in a web-based manual, MAINE 4-H Youth Development Program Policies, Procedures and Guidelines (<http://www.umext.maine.edu/4h/manual/default.htm>). The manual is continually updated and is also available in hard copy by request.

Any 4-H staff, volunteer, or youth may propose amendments to the Policies and Procedures manual, and all changes must be approved by the Maine 4H PLT. The manual makes a distinction between "policies", "procedures", and "guidelines" by putting them in separate sections.

- Policies are firm practices that must be followed by Maine 4-H members, volunteers and staff.
- Procedures are descriptions of how policies and guidelines are implemented.

- Guidelines are helpful suggestions of behavior. Discretion is left to the audiences as to whether or how they follow guidelines.

County-based 4H Educators: The county 4H educator cannot unilaterally create or amend state 4H policies or procedures. However the educator does have discretion in how guidelines are implemented.

County-based Leaders Organizations: County leader's organizations cannot unilaterally create or amend state 4H policies or procedures. However they may advise the educator in how guidelines are implemented.

Although you will sometimes hear the terms "leaders' association" and "advisory council or committee" used interchangeably, the descriptions below generalize their organizational function and are offered as guidelines.

- *4-H Leaders' Association* - The county 4-H leaders' association gives volunteer leaders a voice and direct involvement in the county 4-H program. It organizes and sponsors educational efforts for both leaders and 4-H members. Leader association meetings provide forums in which volunteers exchange ideas, discuss mutual concerns and gain information about working with youth through 4-H. Meetings are a time of learning, sharing, and fellowship. Any interested volunteer 4-H leader may belong to the association, and all leaders are invited to attend association meetings. 4-H leaders' associations' roles usually include:
 1. Identify training needs of 4-H volunteers.
 2. Help conduct leader training.
 3. Promote idea exchange and mutual support.
 4. Stimulate formation of committees to plan, conduct and evaluate county programs if a 4-H advisory council does not exist.

5. Cooperate with other 4-H organizations such as the Pine Tree State 4-H Foundation.
6. Help explain 4-H to the public.
7. Help develop program resources.
8. Recruit leaders into 4-H programs and activities.
9. Recognize and evaluate leader progress and accomplishments.

- *4-H Advisory Council or Committee* - The 4-H advisory council or committee is generally a working group responsible for providing direction to the 4-H program. Its membership should represent the community, including racial and ethnic minorities. A good mix would be to have one third of the membership be teenage youth, one third be from the 4-H leaders' association and one third be adults from outside of the leaders' association. The general functions of a 4-H advisory council or committee include:

1. Collect and assess information about youth and volunteer needs.
2. Set long-range and short-range objectives for the 4-H program.
3. Help locate support needed to conduct educational programs.
4. Maintain a relationship with the County Cooperative Extension Executive Committee.
5. Conduct educational programs that are outside the function of the leaders' association.
6. Evaluate and report program results.



State News

2008 Northeast Regional Volunteer Forum

The 2008 Northeast Regional Volunteer Forum will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, New Hampshire from October 23-26, 2008. For more details, a promotional flyer is available on our website at:

<http://extension.unh.edu/4H/4HVol/08NEVF.htm>

Eastern States Poster Contest

Attention: Any Beef Project Member or Dog Project Member

THE NEW ENGLAND 4-H BEEF POSTER, AD OR LOGO CONTEST and DOG POSTER
PURPOSE: To promote information and/or interest in the beef and/or dog project. To involve members too young to come to The Big E with their animals as well as interest youth who do not have an animal to bring to ESE.

Eastern States Exposition (ESE) invites you to participate in their non-animal aspect of the 4-H Beef Show or 4-H Dog Show. If you are a 4-H member in the beef project you can enter the beef poster, ad or logo contest. If you are a 4-H member in the dog project you may enter the Poster Contest.

To receive more information on these non animal events, please visit the Eastern States Exposition web site at: www.thebige.com > Agriculture > 4-H > 2008 4-H packets then scroll down for beef packet 2 or dog packet. If you would like to receive this information directly, contact Donna Flint at dflint@umext.maine.edu or telephone her at 1-800-287-1535.

New Information for Cloverbuds

A new information sheet called "Maine Cloverbuds and Animals" has been posted on the Maine 4-H website under Cloverbud Resources. This contains lots of suggestions

for activities that Cloverbuds could do with animals as well as the guidelines for Cloverbud work with animals and in public events such as show ring clinics. You can find this information on the 4-H Website at: <http://www.umext.maine.edu/4h/cloverbud/animalactivities.htm>

Eastern States Bus Trip September 27, 2008

It's time to reserve seats for the buses traveling to Eastern States Exposition (ESE or also called the "Big E") in West Springfield, Massachusetts for Maine Day on Saturday, September 27, 2008. This one-day trip is sponsored by the Maine Trustees of the Eastern States Exposition to encourage Maine 4-Hers who don't presently participate in events at ESE to see the activities that go on for 4-H youth in hopes to bolster their enthusiasm to participate in the future. Two buses are reserved for us and the northernmost bus will originate in Bangor and they will stop at several points on I-95. Seats fill up quickly, and we will begin taking registrations on Monday, August 11, 2008.

All youth must go with a chaperone, but since this event is primarily for youth; seats are limited to no more than two adults per child. The bus ride and admission to the "Big E" are free, but all individuals on this trip are expected to march in the parade at 5 pm. It works well if you wear a 4-H tee shirt if you have one and for clubs to bring their club banner to display during the parade.

Items you might want to bring along with you are: light snacks, water, a good book, youth-appropriate movies (there is a DVD/VCR on the bus), a pillow, and a blanket. There will be rest stops along the way. Other items to consider bringing: clothing to identify your club, a comfortable pair of walking shoes, a hat with a visor, sun glasses, sun screen, a back pack, personal spending money, a camera, and a watch. If you have a cell phone, it will be helpful for logistics. Please include your cell phone number when you register.

Please leave valuable items at home. We will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. Bus stops will be determined based on location of riders. Reservations must be made in writing or by e-mail to:

Jessy Brainerd
103 Libby Hall
University of Maine
Orono, ME 04469-5741
jbrainerd@umext.maine.edu

When you register, please give your name, address, home phone and cell phone number if you have one. Please give the names of all the people in your group and indicate if they are a child or adult. Reservations are due by Friday, August 31, 2007. A confirmation letter will be sent to you two weeks before the trip giving you the time and pick up location. Pick up will be bright and early in the morning, but the return trip will be staggered. One bus will leave right after the parade; the second bus will leave after the evening events. So when you register, let us know if you'd like to return on the early or late bus.

For questions, you may contact Jessy Brainerd or Michaela Bailey at 800-287-0274 or 581-3877

Maine 4-H Days Lost and Found

Several items were forgotten at Maine 4-H Days at the Windsor Fairgrounds the weekend of June 27, 28, and 29, 2008. To claim your lost items, please call the State 4-H Office and ask for Jessy or Michaela at 1-800-287-0274 or e-mail at mibailey@umext.maine.edu.

Rubbermaid drinking water cooler, Child's fleece vest, purple Child's sweatshirt, gray with blue decoration, says "New Balance 06"
Umbrella

National 4-H Trips

Nine 4-Hers have been selected to attend the National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference this coming year. Delegates attending Congress in Atlanta, November 29 to December 2, 2008 are Amberosity Davis of Hancock County, Michaela Davis of

Cumberland County, Andrew Guerin of Penobscot County, Marjorie Hardy of Franklin County, and Kellene O'Hara of Aroostook County.

Delegates attending the National 4-H Conference in Washington DC, March 28-April 2, 2009 are Jodi Harnden of Franklin County, Katlyn Keane of Oxford County, Molly Lindsey of Kennebec County, and Katie Thoutte of Cumberland County.

A second group of alternates is eligible to go, however, there is not sufficient funding for their trip. There is a committee that will look for extra funding from 4-H and other community sources that will help to grow the number of delegates that Maine 4-H can send, not only for this year, but in the years to come.

Wilderness/Survival Camp

Date: August 8-10

Location: Bryant Pond 4-H Camp

Cost: \$30.00

Registration Deadline: August 1, 2008

Who: Teens, 13 and up, Parents who would like to participate are also invited!

Come to Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and learn how to survive in the wilderness! You'll make a survival kit, gain water safety/boating skills, build a primitive shelter and make some primitive tools throughout your weekend experience! Come have fun, bring a friend and learn skills that will be with you for a lifetime. Call 1-800-287-1481 for a registration packet.

RESOURCES FOR LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS & MEMBERS...

www.maine4h.umaine.edu

www.4husa.org

www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/

www.4-Hmall.org

[York County 4-H](http://www.yorkcountymaine.org/york/4H/)

<http://www.umaine.edu/umext/york/4H/4-Hhome.htm>