

IOWA COUNTY NEW 4-H FAMILY NEWS

Issue 2

Spring Issue



Welcome to the Iowa County 4-H program! To help you learn more about 4-H in Iowa County, you will be receiving four issues of this newsletter. This newsletter is designed to tell you more about 4-H and about 4-H activities and events in Iowa County so that you and your family can take advantage of the many 4-H opportunities. Contact the Extension Office by phone at **930-9850**, by mail at **303 W Chapel Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533** or by e-mail at sarah.weier@wisc.edu or tom.harman@iowacounty.org for more information. Please feel free to contact the Extension Office with questions.

What 4-H activities can my child participate in?

All 4-H members can participate in a wide variety of 4-H activities, regardless of the project areas they have selected. There are local club activities, county activities, and state and national events to choose from.

CLUB ACTIVITIES: The entire 4-H club can work on community service projects, adopt a highway programs, safety activities, health promotion, or conservation programs. Many clubs also include recreation at their meetings or schedule events like skiing, sledding, bowling, or roller skating for the club families. You will learn about these events at club meetings or by talking to your general leader.

COUNTY ACTIVITIES: There are a wide variety of county 4-H events that youth can choose to participate in. You will learn about these events by reading the monthly newsletter, **"The Clover Connection"**, or from your general leader. You can also contact the Extension Office for information about these programs.

Project Learning Day I and II are designed to give 4-H members hands-on experiences with a 4-H project. A variety of presenters give hints, conduct activities, and involve youth in a half-day program scheduled in February and July.

Foods Review is also held in June for 4-Hers in the Foods and Nutrition project. Youth prepare a food item, plan a menu, and arrange a place setting to match the meal.

4-H Camp: Many 4-H members in grades 3-6 enjoy camp experiences at Upham Woods near Wisconsin Dells. They learn about nature and living with people while having fun.

Clothing Preview in June provides an opportunity for youth in the Clothing and Clothing Decisions projects to show off their sewing and purchasing skills. 4-Hers sew or purchase garments and model them for a judge who looks at the color, style, and accessories as well as the construction of the garment.

Cloverbud Days are events with activities and projects especially planned for the youngest 4-H members. Watch for information about these activities.

4-H Ambassadors are youth in 9th grade and older who promote 4-H in the county and help at special 4-H events throughout the year. Youth who are interested in being an Ambassador complete an application, participate in an interview, and attend a banquet in July.

The Dairy and Livestock Judging Teams meet on a regular basis in the spring to learn how to evaluate dairy animals or swine, beef, and sheep. Youth learn communication and decision-making skills and also expand their knowledge of the dairy and livestock projects. These teams then participate in Area Animal Science Days with other county teams.

Horse Bowl and Horse Judging are group participation events for youth in the horse project. Practices are held to learn everything you can imagine about horses. The Horse Bowl team participates at the State Horse Bowl contest in May. The Horse Judging Team participates at Area Animal Sciences Day and the State Horse Judging Contest.

State Horse Expo, held each September in Milwaukee, includes a Horse Show, Model Horse, speaking, judging, and other activities.

Area Animal Sciences Day is a district event where the 4-H Dairy, Livestock, and Horse Judging Teams compete. AASD includes competition, education, and an opportunity to meet youth from throughout Southern Wisconsin. Winning individuals and teams may compete at state contests.

Introducing the Extension Office Staff:

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|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 4-H Coordinator | Sarah Weier |
| Family Living Agent | Ruth Schriefer |
| Agriculture Agent | Gene Schriefer |
| Nutrition Education Coordinator | Donna Peterson |
| Community Educator | Barry Hottmann |
| Natural Resource Agent | Joe Bonnell |
| Department Assistant | Tom Harman |
| Area 17 Director | Currently Vacant |

The Iowa County Fair is the highlight of the year for many 4-Hers. This event provides an opportunity for youth to exhibit or display the projects they have worked on all year. Each project is judged and suggestions are given to the exhibitors. The Iowa County Fair is held on Labor Day Weekend at the Fairgrounds in Mineral Point. The 4-H Dog Show is held before the fair.

4-H Record Books provide an opportunity for 4-Hers to record their activities and accomplishments for the year. They can also reflect on what they have learned and will try in the future. Record books are due in September to your club leader.

Achievement Day, held each November, provides an opportunity for 4-Hers to be recognized for their project work. A large number of awards are given based on club activities and attendance, the 4-H record book, and leader recommendations. 4-H record books are a place for 4-H members to record what they learn and do with their 4-H projects. These are due in September to the general leader.

The Wisconsin State Fair, held each August, is an opportunity for youth to exhibit project work or to participate in state groups. Livestock exhibitors, musical groups, clothing participants, and others join the fun at the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee.

NEXT ISSUE: The third issue of New Family News will include tips and hints on preparing for the Iowa County Fair, including: How do we fill out fair entry blanks? What is conference judging? Here comes the judge, and more.