



Leader's Letter

April 2011

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Dear 4-H Volunteer Leaders,

Thank you for your continued support of Clark County 4-H! Without your support 4-H in Clark County would not be possible.

This is the 1st edition of the Leader's Letter newsletter. The purpose of a leader newsletter is to keep our leaders informed on upcoming programs, updates from the State 4-H office, and continued education regarding 4-H Youth Development in Clark County

4-H leaders have a significant role in the Clark County 4-H program since they have the most consistent, regular contact with the members and therefore make the most significant impact on the 4-H member's lives. As a 4-H leader you are always a role model for our members in addition to teachers and mentors.

Hopefully the Leader's Letter newsletter will prove to be informative and useful.

Thank you for supporting Clark County 4-H.

Sincerely,

Sara Gronski
4-H Youth Development Agent
Clark County

Your county
extension office



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4-H DICTIONARY

4-H leaders and volunteers are respected as experts on everything about 4-H –here are a few of the terms that newer members and families sometimes confuse – lets help them understand!

Volunteer: Adult who has completed 4-H Volunteer Orientation & Youth Protection Training

General Leader: Adult who has completed the 4-H Volunteer Orientation & Youth Protection and is responsible for the club's connection to UWEX (sometimes clubs have co-leaders that share responsibilities)

Project Leader: Adult volunteer who has completed 4-H Volunteer Orientation & Youth Protection and is responsible for helping members learn about a specific project (i.e. woodworking or dogs)

Member: Young person enrolled in 4-H who is in grades K-13 (one year out of high school)

Cloverbud: Young person enrolled in 4-H who is in grades K-2

Explorer: Young person enrolled in 4-H who in addition to other project areas also enrolls in the Exploring Project (members in grades 3-4)

Project: An area of interest that a young person enrolls in during the enrollment process and works on throughout the year (i.e. woodworking)

Exhibit: A specific piece that a young person brings to the county fair for judging (i.e. birdhouse from the woodworking project)

County Fair: An opportunity for members to showcase what they have learned from their project areas

4-H Club: A group of 5 or more youth from 2 or more families and a *4-H Volunteer* serving as the *General Leader*

Project Meetings/Workshops: Meetings held for youth enrolled in a specific project area; sometimes at the club level and sometimes at the county level

Fairbook: The necessary information and forms for the Clark County Fair – published by the Clark County Agricultural Society

Clark County Agricultural Society: Also known as the Fairboard; a group of elected members who plan and organize the Clark County Fair with guidance from members of the County Board

Clark County Leaders Federation: All Clark County 4-H volunteers are considered members and are welcome at the meetings

Clark County Leaders Federation Executive Board: An elected group of 4-H members and volunteers who oversee 4-H in Clark County

4-H Committee: Committees organized by the Clark County Leaders Federation to plan and organize specific 4-H events/activities or project areas

4-H Youth Development Agent: Teaches content in youth development, works with 4-H clubs, advises the 4-H Leaders Federation and 4-H volunteers, provides a link to the UW system and has knowledge 4-H Youth Development across the state in order to bring resources to the local county program

UW-Extension: Works in partnership with 26 UW System campuses, 72 Wisconsin counties, three tribal governments, and other public and private organizations to fulfill its public service mission. This is the "Wisconsin Idea" – extending the university's boundaries to the corners of the state.



4-H LITERATURE AVAILABLE - CALL UWEX

Do you want to lead a project area workshop but aren't sure how or what to teach?

4-H LITERATURE is available from UWEX in nearly all project areas. Not only are there youth work books there are also leader books with activities to lead with groups of 4-H members.

The 4-H Clover Emblem and Pledge Explained

The first 4-H emblem was a three-leaf clover, introduced sometime between 1907 and 1908. The three "H's" represented head, heart and hands. In 1911, at a meeting of club leaders in Washington, a fourth "H" representing health was added and the current 4-H four-leaf clover emblem was approved. It is protected by the U.S. Congress.



4-H Youth Development:
a catalyst for positive community
youth development

Fair Volunteers Are Needed!

If you would be interested in
volunteering at the
2011 Clark County Fair
please contact the
UW-Extension Office at
715-743-5121

Thank You

CLARK COUNTY FAIR FORMS - CONFUSING OR NOT?

Every year there are questions regarding the fair forms. Please help your 4-H members fill out the forms and check them over before they come to the UW-Extension Office. After the deadline - changes/corrections will not be made. To be sure that the 4-H member's form is done correctly - please check every entry before handing it in.

So if a 3rd grade 4-H member enrolled the Woodworking would like to enter an unpainted birdhouse the first line of their fair form should look like this:

Dept.	Class	Lot	Description
<u>J22</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Birdhouse/feeder - not painted</u>

If any of these numbers/letters descriptions are written incorrectly by the exhibitor - they will be entered in the wrong category at the fair. Writing the full description helps us verify that we are reading their writing and are entering the member where they intended.

DINE & DISCUSS SPRING LEADER TRAINING

Thursday, May 5
7:00 p.m.
Loyal City Hall

Dinner will be served - reserve your spot by Monday, May 2nd/4:30 p.m.

Topics to be covered:

- Communicating with your fellow club leaders, volunteers and officer team
- Parliamentary Procedure - How to Organize Club Meetings
- Cloverbuds - how to make the most out of their 4-H experience

Club Fair Packets (includes the 2011-2012 fairbook) are available - call ahead if you would like your club packet brought to the training (no call - no packet).

Wisconsin 4-H Mission



UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development integrates research, education, and community-based partnerships, enabling youth to learn and practice skills to be productive citizens.

AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAY

Please encourage your members to sign up for an AASD event. This is a great learning opportunity for members in dairy, livestock, and horse projects.



WELCOMING NEW CLUB MEMBERS & FAMILIES

Joining a club and walking into a room of people you don't know can be difficult. It is up to the entire club to help new members feel welcome. Ideas for creating an inclusive, welcoming environment:

- Have all club members and families introduce themselves; sometimes we have just the new members introduce themselves which doesn't help them get to know the more senior members
- Assign a mentor or buddy for the new member – this could be an older member to act as a big sister/big brother or a member that is similar in age that can be a friend
- Have a list of club contacts for all families so that if anyone has a question, answers can be obtained between club meetings
- Do ice breakers/get acquainted activities at all club meetings to help new members and veteran members get to know one another better
- Check with new families at the end of each meeting to see if they have any questions
- Establish a Welcoming Committee to be on the look-out for new members to greet them at the start of the meeting and to start introducing them and answering any questions they may have

4-H RECORD BOOK UPDATE

Record Book Forms are available online year-around – please encourage your members to start filling them out now.

Forms will be the same for the 2010-2011 Project Year but in 2011-2012 new forms will be introduced by the Awards Committee. Orientation and Training on the new forms will be held in the Fall **AFTER** the 2011 Record Book Deadline (September 15).

Let's Talk About Cloverbuds!

Goals of the Cloverbud 4-H Program:

- Develop a positive self-concept
- Develop competencies in life skills for self-understanding, social interaction, decision making, learning to learn and mastering physical skills

When working with Cloverbuds Always Remember:

Encourage children to talk and work with each other. Children at this age learn best when they are engaged in activities that allow them to practice, demonstrate, explain and apply their learning.

Include adults and other youth who are positive role models. As children enlarge their circle to include the greater community, adults outside the home having increasing influence in their lives, introducing new information, new skills and new points of view. Adults help children feel good about who they are and what they can do.

Promote cooperation rather than competition. Children in K-3 need experiences that promote cooperative efforts and emphasize the learning process; competition undermines these goals. This is why Cloverbuds and Explorers participate in face to face judging at the Clark County Fair and explain their project to the judge.

Use positive guidance and discipline. Children at this age are learning self-control and need positive guidance from adults to accomplish this. To become socially competent, children must be taught skills for appropriate social behaviors, such as taking turns, dividing and sharing resources and working cooperatively.

Provide individualized learning and group learning. Learning activities should include a variety of experiences to accommodate the children's varied ages, stages, interests and needs.



Adapted from the University of Minnesota Cloverbuds Leader Guide

Cloverbud Activity

MAKE YOUR OWN LEMON SODA

Age Group: K-3

Lifeskill: Learning to Learn

Time: 10 minutes

Materials:

- Large plastic glass
- Sugar
- Lemon juice
- Straws (optional)
- Ice
- Water
- Baking soda



Procedure:

1. Into a glass, stir in equal amounts of lemon juice and water.
2. Taste it.
3. What does it taste like?
4. Add sugar to taste.
5. Stir in one teaspoon (or more if needed) baking soda.
6. What happens?

The results are a bubbly lemon soda!

Explain that baking soda and lemon juice react to form carbon dioxide and this is the gas that makes the fizz.

Your county extension office



UW Extension

Cooperative Extension

Clark County

517 Court St., Room 104
Neillsville, WI 54456-1982

Phone 715-743-5121
Fax 715-743-5129

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yourcountyextensionoffice.org*

Clark County 4-H Mission Statement

"The mission of Clark County 4-H is to develop youth to become productive citizens and catalysts for positive change, and enable youth to become capable, responsible, and caring citizens."

4-H clover protected under 18 U.S.C. 707

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 kept confidential.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the UW-Extension Office (715-743-5121).

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA.



Youth

Chandra Pecha
Sebastian Neisus
Rebecca Stiemann
Hannah Durrstein
Chad Emiling
Ben Kind

715-223-0305
715-669-7351
715-267-6944
715-267-4673
715-937-3031
715-743-6940

Adults

Melissa Brecke
Barb Finkelson
Pam Seiz-Fralle
Jo Elmer
Judy Morrow
Susan Stiemann

715-669-5130
715-229-4494
715-334-3434
715-267-7401
715-743-2885
715-267-6944

Sara Gronski, 4-H Youth Development Agent
sara.gronski@ces.uwex.edu
Maria Bendixen, Dairy and Livestock Agent
maria.bendixen@ces.uwex.edu
Richard Halopka, Crops and Soils Agent
richard.halopka@ces.uwex.edu
Julie Simek-Heggebo, Family Living Agent
julie.simek@ces.uwex.edu
Brenda Herrell, WNEP Coordinator
brenda.herrell@ces.uwex.edu
Becky Gulczynski, WNEP Educator
becky.gulczynski@ces.uwex.edu
Lori Hendrickson, 4-H Secretary
lori.hendrickson@co.clark.wi.us
Theresa Hediger, Agricultural Secretary
theresa.hediger@co.clark.wi.us

4-H Leaders Federation Executive Board

UW-Extension Staff