

The 4-H Leaders Digest

A Notice of Timely Information for Sussex County 4-H Leaders

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To: 4-H Project, Activity, and Resource Leaders

From: 



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Michelle Teitsma, 4-H Program Assistant

Important Fair Dates

- July 28 Drop off at Shotwell Building (see chart on page 9 for divisions) 3:00-5:00 p.m.
- July 30 Drop off at Shotwell Building (see chart on page 9 for divisions) and booth set-up 3:00-9:00 p.m.
- July 31 Drop off at Shotwell Building (see chart for divisions) and booth set-up 3:00-9:00 p.m.
- August 2-11 NJ State Fair®/Sussex County Farm and Horse Show
- August 2 Drop off of fruits, vegetables, flowers & herbs in Shotwell Building 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- August 2 Show Dee-Oh 7:00 p.m.
- August 6 NORWESCAP food drive
- August 7 Drop off of baked goods, foods and nutrition, and food preservation in Shotwell Building 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- August 7 Cloverbud Carnival 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- August 8 Round Robin 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- August 11 Premium pick-up 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Deadlines

- July 1 Fair entry forms and record books due to 4-H office—no exceptions
- July 8 Fair Pass Request Form due to fairgrounds
- August 6 NORWESCAP food due to Shotwell Building

2013 New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show

The 2013 Fair will open at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 2 and continue until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 11.

4-H Exhibit Catalogues

The 2013 *4-H Exhibit Catalogues* are available for download from the Sussex 4-H website (www.sussex4h.org) or the NJSF®/SCFHS (<http://www.newjerseystatefair.org>). Club leaders will receive a copy of their department's rules and registration forms via regular mail from the 4-H office. If you need additional forms, you may download them from the 4-H or fair websites. Alternatively, you may contact the 4-H office and request to have hard copies mailed.

You or your club members may download the **full** 2013 *4-H Exhibit Catalogue* and fair entry forms from the websites listed above. If you are unable to do this, please contact the office to request that hard copies be mailed.

Your members may have entries in more than one department. For example, livestock members are invited (encouraged!) to submit art work (paintings, photographs, pastels, etc.) and/or crafts (models, collections, albums, etc.). Information for entering exhibits in the Shotwell Building is included in the 2013 *4-H Exhibit Catalogue*.

A full copy of the 2013 *4-H Exhibit Catalogue* may be downloaded from the Sussex County 4-H website, here's the path: (www.sussex4h.org>>Events>>NJ State Fair). Please note: registration and fair entry forms for the 2013 NJSF®/SCFHS are no longer pink (some copies are available in pink). Registration forms may be completed on your computer, signed and submitted on white paper (stock).

Fair Theme

The theme for the 4-H club booth displays for the 2013 NJ State Fair/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show will be ***Creating Connections Through 4-H in the Year of the Farmer***. Use this theme to describe the benefits youth can get out of 4-H as well as how 4-H has affected your club members. As always, please be creative in interpreting this theme. To promote conservation and keep 4-H green, please reuse or use recycled materials in your design. Creative interpretation of the theme and use of green materials are among the criteria used by those judging the booths. Attached is a sheet to help guide you with this theme.

Submitting 4-H Member Fair Entry Forms (fka: Pink Sheets)

If you have not already done so, please review (with the members of your club) how to complete the 4-H member fair entry forms and how they should update their project record books. ***Please check the 4-H Exhibit Catalogue for deadlines for your project area.***

All 4-H leaders are asked to cooperate by collecting the 4-H member fair entry form(s) and up-to-date project record book(s) from each member. Then, the 4-H leader or an adult designated by the 4-H club leader must submit all 4-H member fair entry forms and record books from his/her entire club to the 4-H office physically located at 127 Morris Turnpike in Frankford, behind the main county library by ***Monday, July 1 (4:00 p.m.)***

- Please take the time to ensure that signatures for all forms are in place. Record book and fair entry forms are not considered complete unless all signatures are in place.
- All fair entry forms and project books must be turned in by July 1 or no premiums or passes will be given.
- **EVERY member needs to have an entry form to receive a fair pass!**

Up-to-Date Project Record Books

We will be continuing last year's record book policy for 2013. This policy applies if your club will not have completed its 4-H project(s) by July 1 (when record books are due). This involves the application of a label for signatures indicating that your club member's record book is up to date. If your club's record books are complete by July 1, then you do not need to use the stickers; your record books should be submitted with ***all*** end-of-year signatures completed.

For those whose record books will not be complete by 7/1...

Each of your club members should have a *Fair Review Signatures* sticker placed on their record book. Record books must be turned in by July 1 with their *Fair Review Signatures* sticker signed by **all necessary parties**. The record books must be up to date, but do not have to be complete, as the project year does not end until after the fair. An up-to-date record book should include:

- **Start of Year Goals** – completed and signed
- **Activities/Events** – up to date including club meetings, competitions attended, participation in public presentations, and club meetings
- **Financial Records** (up to date; totals are not required)
- **Fair Review Signatures*** (signatures by the member, parent and club leader required)

**Adhesive labels for these signatures are sent upon request.*

After the fair, you may submit your record books for year-end evaluation. At this time, the books should be complete—*end-of-year signatures must be included*. A completed record book should include the above sections completed as well as...

- **Looking Back** (reflections on the year's accomplishments)
- **Thinking Ahead** (goals for the coming year)
- **Financial Records** (totals for all areas including the net project cost table)
- **4-H Story and all end-of-year signatures.**

All books are due July 1 and should be completed with all appropriate signatures. Any books turned in without the proper signatures (i.e. start of year goals and fair review *or* end of year) will not be accepted. It is the club leader's responsibility to check to assure *all* necessary components and signatures have been completed before record books are submitted.

Please review this with your club members before collecting their project books.

- Were all items filled in on the cover?
- Were project goals listed?
- Were project goals appropriate for member experience?
- Were signatures for goal setting and year end completed?
- Were all 4-H activities recorded?
- Was animal care documented (if applicable)?
- What was the total value of all projects?
- Are expenses recorded and totaled? Total? \$_____
- Was financial summary (page 14) completed?
- Were completed goals listed on page 15?
- Was a 4-H story written?
- Were goals recorded for next year?

Fair Passes

Expenses for operating the fair and maintaining the fairgrounds continue to rise. As a cost-control measure, the fair has asked us to document the contributions of 4-H members and leaders who receive fair passes. We know you as leaders and 4-H club members make valuable contributions to the fair and we need to record this information.

In recognition of the contributions 4-H makes to the fair, 4-H members (meeting the appropriate registration requirements) will still receive ten-day fair passes at no cost. However, the cost for two parents to purchase ten-day passes will be **\$15 each** for a ten-day pass.

It is important that we are able to show the contributions Sussex County 4-H makes towards the success of the New Jersey State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show.

4-H Regular Fair Passes:

- 4-H Member in Good Standing (*and other criteria as established by your club*).
- Up-to-date project record book submitted to the Sussex County 4-H office (*completed or with Fair Review Signature label*) no later than July 1, 2013
- 70% attendance at club meetings (or better)
- Made a club-level presentation

4-H Cloverbud Members:

- Record book is not required
- 70% attendance at club meetings (or better)
- County level presentation is not required

Fair passes are provided to regular 4-H members in recognition of their participation in the 4-H program and service to the fair. Receiving a fair pass is not just an invitation to attend the fair; 4-H members are expected to help out. On this year's registration form there is an area for the member to indicate their participation in the fair.

- 4-H members with livestock are expected to work with their club in preparing for shows, caring for their animals, and answering questions from the public about their animals during the time they are at the fair. Consider displaying educational posters, giving tours, or sponsoring a story hour for your club's project area.
- 4-H Teen Council members are expected to sign-up for shifts in the Dairy Barn.
- 4-H members in other clubs are invited to work with their fellow members in designing and constructing a club booth display (before the fair)—they are also responsible for taking it down at the end of the fair.
- All members may exhibit their projects in the Shotwell Building (under the guidelines in the 2013 *4-H Exhibit Catalogue*).
- All members aged 12 and up are encouraged to work a shift at the Ag Division Food Booth. Many clubs take a shift together.

There are many other opportunities to volunteer during the fair. If a member did not qualify for a fair pass, he/she may receive day passes to volunteer at the fair. See section below on *Volunteer Opportunities at the Fair*.

4-H Member Weekly Pass

One issued per registered member who satisfies the requirements explained in the first paragraph of this section. Ten-day pass; no charge; **each pass to be signed by parent and member on reverse**; each pass to be punched when entering fair; obtain wrist band if leaving fair and returning the same day; pass to be returned to leader at conclusion of fair. Leader will drop off passes when picking up premiums and ribbons. **If the pass is NOT signed, it will be confiscated at the entrance gate and will NOT be returned.**

Parent Weekly Pass

Only two issued per family for a 4-H member who satisfies the requirements explained in the first paragraph of this section. Ten-day pass; \$15 per pass; each pass to be signed on reverse; each pass to be punched when entering fair; obtain wrist band if leaving fair and returning the same day. Parents whose 4-H member has not qualified for a ten-day pass are not eligible to purchase the ten-day pass at \$15. If their child opts to volunteer for jobs during the fair, a/one parent pass will be provided for each day the member is volunteering. **If the pass is NOT signed, it will be confiscated at the entrance gate and will NOT be returned.**

4-H Leader Pass

One issued per registered leader; ten-day pass; no charge; each pass to be signed on reverse; each pass to be punched when entering fair; obtain wrist band if leaving fair and returning the same day. **If the pass is not signed, it will be confiscated at the entrance gate and will not be returned.**

4-H Volunteer (i.e., 4-H Advisory Council, Foundation, Resource Leader or Other)

Photo ID.

If you will be participating at the fair for *more than five days*, you should receive a fair badge/photo ID.

Fair Pass Requests

Please use the attached 2013 NJ State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show 4-H Weekly Pass Order Form to order passes for this year's fair. **Return this form to the fair office with one check made payable to: NJ State Fair®/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show (NJSF/SCFHS) for the full amount owed.** Please indicate on the order form the contact person for your club. To allow passes to be processed in time for the fair, **July 8 is the last day requests and payments will be accepted.** You will be contacted by the Fair Office when your requested passes are available. Fair pass requests and payments will be accepted at the Fair Office from now until July 8 (3:30 p.m.). Passes will not be issued until all record books have been evaluated, judged, and returned to the fair office.

When filling out the pass order form, please remember:

- Use a separate form for Cloverbud members
- Cloverbud members need a fair entry form for every exhibit item that is *not* part of a club booth display
- List one member per line
- Parent passes should be purchased through the oldest member's primary club, unless it is not an Ag (livestock or animal) club. *Ag clubs should always be marked as the primary club* because an Ag parking pass is given, not an exhibitor parking pass.
- If a member is involved in multiple clubs, please designate one as the primary club and that is the club that the passes are given out through. (See above regarding Ag as primary club.)
- **Members should be alphabetized and printed neatly or typed.**
- Please indicate any leaders who have photo ID badges on the pass order form.
- Please call the fair office *before* coming to pick up your passes.

After 10:00 a.m., when using a pass to enter the fair at ticket gates one, two, or three, look for the line for passes, badges, and advance tickets. Theoretically, this line should be faster than the other lines where people are buying tickets. When you show your 4-H pass to the ticket seller, he/she is supposed to give you a paper receipt. Give this paper receipt to the ticket taker as you pass through the gate to enter the fairgrounds. Auditors have indicated that the fair must keep better records of how many people enter the fair, not just how many passes are provided to 4-H, non-

profit groups, vendors, etc. *If you have club members who do not qualify for a ten-day pass, there are volunteer activities for which they may receive a day pass.*

Volunteering at the Fair

Community service and volunteering to help are part of 4-H; we encourage all to volunteer whenever/wherever possible at the fair. The success of the NJSF®/SCFHS has been built on the contributions of many volunteers over the years (including 4-H members, parents, and leaders.)

Ag Division Food Booth

Description: Help adults with cooking, serving, and other activities related to managing the Food Booth for the Agricultural Division of the fair.

Shifts are 2-4 hours

Age: 12 years or older

Date: Throughout the fair (August 2-11)

Contact: CeCe Pattison 973-383-4109 or cece@blindbrookfarm.com

4-H Information Table

Description: Share information about 4-H with interested adults or youth

Shifts are 2 hours

Age: 14 years or bring along an adult to help

Date: Throughout the fair (August 2-11)

Contact: Michelle Teitsma teitsma@rce.rutgers.edu or Dave Foord foord@rce.rutgers.edu

Cloverbud Carnival

Description: Help adults and older 4-H members with various jobs and tasks related to the carnival held for Cloverbud-age 4-H members (grades 1-3)

Clubs are encouraged to take responsibility for a table.

Regular 4-H members are encouraged to volunteer; younger members will need a parent to assist.

Setting up, helping during the carnival, and breaking it down will take approximately 2 hours.

Date: Wednesday August 7, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Contact: Cathy Lawrick 973-827-7059 (after 5:00 p.m.) or rmrs1958@aol.com or Joann Johnson 973-702-7912 or zookeeper3@embarqmail.com

Clover, The 4-H Rover!

Description: Dress up as the lovable, animated 4-H mascot *Clover, The 4-H Rover*. Walk around the fair, greet, shake hands, and pose with young fair goers.

Age: 15 years or older

Date: Throughout the fair (August 2-11)

Contact: Michelle Teitsma teitsma@rce.rutgers.edu or Dave Foord foord@rce.rutgers.edu

Presentation and/or Demonstration at the 4-H Learning Center (Shotwell Building)

Description: The stage is open! If you received an Excellent rating on your county level presentation you are invited to share your presentation at the Bill Bennett Learning Center Stage in the Shotwell Building. You can demonstrate a skill you learned from 4-H from how to care for your rabbit/chicken/cow/pig, etc. to how you made that nifty bicycle wheel wind turbine (from K'nex parts).

No age requirement!

Date: Throughout the fair (August 2-11)

Contact: Susan Murray Flaherty intouch1@embarqmail.com

Farmers Market

Description: Work in the Farmers Market assisting customers with the sale of local produce.

Dates: Throughout the fair (August 2-11)

Age: 14 years or older

Contact: Donna Traylor dtraylor@sussex.nj.us or 973-579-0500, Extension 1

Fair Exhibitor Parking and Passes

Only one exhibitor parking pass will be issued per family. The exhibitor parking area will be located behind the greenhouses. Those who arrive *before 10:00 a.m.* to drop off or check exhibits, feed their animals, etc., will be allowed to drive to that building/barn.

Bill Bennett 4-H Learning Center

A demonstration area, called the Learning Center, was constructed by the late Bill Bennett. At the Learning Center, 4-H members can present information about their 4-H project or other subjects. A demonstration or “show-and-tell” activity with audience interaction tends to work better than a formal lecture. Contact Susan Murray Flaherty at 973-383-2766 to schedule a time to conduct a presentation. Before contacting Susan please consider whether the presenter would like to present on a weekday or weekend and whether they are available to present in the afternoon or evening.

Set-up in the Shotwell Building

If parents or adult volunteers are available to help with setting up the Shotwell Building on **Saturday, July 20** (between 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.), please call Neil Flaherty at (973) 383-2766.

The following is the drop-off/set-up schedule:

Date	Department	Time
Sunday, July 28	Forestry & Conservation Child Care Home Furnishings Arts & Crafts Art Ceramics Needlecraft Photography Construction Hobbies & Collections	3:00-5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 30 Wednesday, July 31	Woodcraft Engineering Shooting Sports Club Booth and Cloverbud Display Clothing	3:00-9:00 p.m.
Friday, August 2	Vegetables Herbs Flowers Fruits	9:00-11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 7	Foods & Nutrition Baked Goods Food Preservation	9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

4-H Information Table in the 4-H Building

Register your 4-H club to do a shift at the 4-H Information Table during fair week.

The fair is a great place to share information about 4-H, your club, and project area. Because we have the largest (and longest!) fair in New Jersey, we have a great opportunity to tell folks about 4-H. This can happen in any number of places during the fair, but our information table in the Shotwell 4-H Building is the hub. Nothing communicates 4-H better than our members and volunteers.

We are asking that every club sign-up for a two-hour shift at the information table in the Shotwell 4-H Building. Shifts are simple and painless. All you have to do is distribute information promoting 4-H, talk about your 4-H experiences, and help children and adults sign up to receive information about registering as a 4-H member or becoming an adult volunteer. Day passes may be issued for people willing to serve for a two-or four-hour shift.

Call the 4-H office, (973) 948-3040, to reserve a shift on the day of your choice. A copy of the schedule is attached. Shifts are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Educational Displays about 4-H Projects at the County Fair

Reuse your club booth display as a window display for National 4-H Week, October 7-11. Displays about 4-H provide information for the general public in addition to publicizing 4-H and recruiting new members and leaders. Contact Dave or Michelle at the 4-H office, 973-948-3040, for suggestions or additional information. Many local businesses and the county libraries gladly welcome window displays from 4-H.

Tenth Annual Sussex County 4-H/NORWESCAP Food Drive

Susan Murray Flaherty has again agreed to coordinate this annual Sussex County 4-H/NORWESCAP Food Drive. There will be a pre-collection for 4-H clubs that wish to participate. When clubs come to set up their club booth displays, there will be a brown bag with a note requesting the bag be filled with non-perishable foods and left under the booths/tables by **Tuesday, August 6**.

The following is a suggested list of non-perishable items:

canned tuna	peanut butter	pasta sauce	individually wrapped
stew	jelly	soap	rolls of toilet paper and
soup	juice	shampoo	paper towels)
beans	cereal		toothpaste
canned fruit and	rice	paper goods (tissues,	toothbrushes
vegetables	pasta	napkins, and	laundry detergent

Thank you to all the clubs that have participated in the past. We look forward to everyone's participation. If you have any questions, please contact Susan at intouch1@embarqmail.com or 973-383-2766.

Procedures for Pick-up of Premiums and Ribbons

- For each 4-H club, the 4-H club leader or an adult designated by the 4-H club leader must go to the Shotwell Building between 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 11.
- *No premiums or ribbons will be handed out before 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 11. Any one dismantling a club booth display or removing exhibit items from the building before 5:00 p.m. on August 14 will forfeit premiums.*
- The designated person (4-H club leader or an adult designated by the 4-H club leader) will sign for all premiums and ribbons for their 4-H club members.

- This person (4-H club leader or an adult designated by the 4-H club leader) is responsible for distributing the premiums and ribbons to the appropriate 4-H club members.
- If a 4-H member belongs to more than one club, premiums will be given to the 4-H club that is designated as his/her primary club.

Pick-up of Exhibit Items

- Items must remain on display until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 11.
- Starting at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 14, exhibitors will have one hour to pick up their items.
- **Any items left after 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 11 will be discarded unless prior pick-up arrangements have been made with Dave Foord, Michelle Teitsma, or Susan Murray Flaherty.**

Community Service at the Livestock Pavilion Food Booth

While you are attending the fair, why not volunteer to do some community service at the Fair Livestock Pavilion Food Booth? Profits from the food booth are used to support animal project activities at the fair. This is also a great opportunity to meet 4-H members from other clubs. Contact CeCe Pattison at 973-383-4109 or cece@blindbrookfarm.com for additional information and to schedule a time when you and your club can help at the food booth (because of liability concerns, 4-H members must be 12 years of age or older to help at the food booth.)

Attention: Market Animal Project Leaders

This is a reminder that you should review the requirements for your 4-H project area and the 4-H Market Animal Sale with your club members. *Also, remind the 4-H'ers and their parents to thank the buyers who supported the 4-H Market Animal Sale last year, and to invite the buyers to this year's sale.*

The requirements you should discuss should include, *but are not limited to:*

- Ownership of animals
- Birth dates of animals
- Finished weight requirements of animals
- Loaner agreement on file at county 4-H office
- Member in good standing requirements
- Record books
- Fair entry forms, etc.
- Qualifications for Participation

No Food or Drink Allowed in Livestock Barns

This is a reminder that no food or drink is allowed in Livestock Barns 1-6, the Livestock Arena, the Milking Parlor, or any structure in the agricultural area which contains livestock, poultry, or animals of any kind. All 4-H members and their families are required to follow these rules. We are to demonstrate the rule to the public (i.e. lead by example). Any 4-H member or family member who disobeys this rule will be subject to any one or all of the following: ejection from the fairgrounds, loss of premiums, and/or loss of 4-H Market Animal Sale earnings.

Any open show exhibitor or family member who disobeys this rule will be subject to any one or all of the following: ejection from the fairgrounds and/or loss of premiums.

It will be the responsibility of 4-H leaders and open show directors to monitor their groups.

(Judges will be permitted to have bottled water in the livestock show arena during their show. Bottles must have a cap when not in use.)

Fun 4-H Activities Scheduled for the Fair

The following events have been scheduled at the fair livestock arena. Please contact Dave or Michelle at the 4-H office, 973-948-3040, for more information, to help with these activities, or to become a member of the committee responsible for an activity.

4-H Show Dee-O

Friday (August 2), 7:00 p.m.

Livestock Arena

A fun activity that includes relay races, tug of war, hay bale toss, etc. Abby is currently thinking up new and exciting games to play (as well as ways to embarrass Michelle and Dave in demonstrating these games!)

4-H Cloverbud Carnival

Wednesday (August 7), 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Livestock Arena

To help, contact Cathy Lawrick, (973) 827-7059. or Joann Johnson (973) 702-7912.

Includes fun activities (such as the ring toss) for Cloverbud-aged children and their families. The children receive tickets for participating in the activities and redeem these tickets for inexpensive prizes. Please call if you can help with this year's 4-H Cloverbud Carnival.

Thanks to Cathy and the planning committee for the successful 4-H Cloverbud Carnival last year, and we look forward to another great event this year.

4-H Round Robin

Thursday (August 8), 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Livestock Arena

4-H members who win the Junior or Senior showmanship honors in one of the following shows: 4-H Sheep, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Horse, Rabbit, Poultry, Dairy Goat, or Meat Goat are automatically entered to participate in the Showmanship activity. Participants will receive a quick lesson on showing each animal and then are required to demonstrate what they've learned. The quickest learners with the best skills will receive a \$100 US Savings Bond.

Representatives at the Fair

Does your club have an application for a "representative," "royalty," or "person of the year"? Each year at the opening ceremony of the New Jersey State Fair/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, our outstanding 4-H'ers are asked to be in attendance and acknowledged. Due to some inconsistencies in the past and the addition of several new clubs this year that are not familiar with this process, we would like to review the application process that each group uses to choose its representative. Some groups have us review the applicants and select judges, others run independently. The ones that we know about are:

- Equestrian of the Year (8 clubs – *Back in the Saddle, Bit by Bit, Chaps & Breeches, Equistarz, Horsemise, Merry-Go-Riders, Oxbow Raiders, and Sussex County Pony Express*)
- Swine Representative (1 club – *Sussex Squealers*)
- Sheep Representative (1 club – *Sussex Shepherds*)
- Dairy Princess (2 clubs – *Sussex County Milkmakers and Wantage Hustlers*)
- Beef Representative (1 club – *Top O' Jersey Beef*)
- Goat Representative (1 club – *Sussex County Capricians*)

- Rabbit Royalty (10 clubs – *All Star Rabbits, Breeders & Feeders, The Bunny Bunch, Cuddly Critters, Four Legged Friends, Furry Friends, Little Critters, Little Pocket Pets, Nifty Little Critters, Side Kicks, Whiskers & Squeals* and *Wild Whiskers*)
- Dog Representative (4 clubs – *Dogs & Paws, Love on a Leash, Sussex County K-9 Frenzy, and Take the Lead*)
- Poultry Representative (1 club – *Kicken' Chickens*)
- Alpaca Representative (1 club – *Awesome Alpaca Adventurers*)

We would like to know what your qualifications are for your representative, when and how they are chosen, and their responsibilities as representative. Thanks for your help!

Please let us know who is chosen as your representative so that we may share this with the fair.

Clover, The 4-H Rover

Pretty much everybody knows Clover, The 4-H Rover (costume and character developed by Maureen Mitchell). During the fair, Clover makes daily appearances shaking hands, “high five-ing,” hugging, and posing with young children.

We’re again providing the opportunity for older 4-H members to play. Clover participates in many activities during the fair including the daily appearances and story times hosted in the Shotwell Building as well as those hosted in the barns. Daily appearances usually take only 20-30 minutes (starting around 2:00 p.m.). Playing Clover takes energy and enthusiasm, the reward comes from the many kids who are happy and thrilled to meet and pose with Clover. This is a fun and unique way to represent 4-H and have some fun at the fair!

If you or a member of your club would like to play Clover, contact the Sussex County 4-H office.

New Photography Judging Classes

For many years 4-H members participated in photography through pictures they not only composed and exposed to film but processed through traditional darkrooms mixing chemicals as well as developing film and prints. Obtaining a well exposed, well developed print was a significant achievement representing many hours in a darkroom. This technical accomplishment was a major part of the criteria for judging 4-H photography projects.

Digital photography has changed the game. Today’s cameras allow almost anybody to take and print a technically good picture. The skill comes in what the picture is about. Lighting, exposure and composition still count, but no longer require the technical skills they once did.

In recognition of this advance as well as to allow 4-H members new ways to explore modern photography, we’re adopting new judging criteria. While the same types of photographs that have traditionally been entered by 4-H members can still be entered, 4-H’ers are invited to develop and show off new photography skills.

There are now classes on areas like macro photography where members are invited to explore close-up details of a subject. *Digital Darkroom* offers members the chance to share technical skills in manipulating an image.

Dominant Color, as the name suggests, will evaluate photos based on how a leading color is used. *Elements of Design* looks at how well graphic elements show up a photograph.

Storyboard may be the most interesting and challenging new class. It involves entering a series of three photos that tells a story. Some captioning or text may be used to aid the story, but it should be minimal - the pictures should tell the story.

We hope that Sussex 4-H members will take advantage of these new classes for photography entries to show us their skills and share their perspectives.

Photography is Department 18 in the 4-H Exhibit Catalogue. The rules and classes for entering photographs are on pages 30 and 31 of the Catalogue. The catalogue may be downloaded at,

http://www.sussex4h.org/Events/sc4h_njstatefair.html

2013 Blood Drive

The 4-H blood drive is being scheduled for September at the 4-H office. 4-H is trying to partner with the Sussex County Chapter of the American Red Cross. This is our third blood drive. Last year we collected approximately 20 pints of blood! Let's try to beat that this year! Anyone 17 and older can donate blood. Please spread the word! To sign up to donate or to volunteer to help, please call the 4-H office or email Abby at sus4hgirl@gmail.com.

4-H Foundation Haunted 5K

The Sussex County 4-H Foundation is working on plans for a new fundraising effort for the 4-H Scholarship Fund. The event date has yet to be determined but is planned for early October. We will be needing help for an organizational committee as well as volunteers the day of the event. Volunteers will be needed for everything from registration to handing out waters to runners. We strongly encourage club involvement in this effort as the scholarship fund is for the 4-Hers themselves. More information to follow on when the committee will be meeting.

New Mailing Address

Rutgers Cooperative Extension has a new mailing address. The office is still in the same location but as the building we are in is no longer owned by the county of Sussex, our mail can no longer be sent to the physical address. Our new mailing address is:

RCE of Sussex County

1 Spring Street

Newton, NJ 07860

You may still use the drop box that is located outside the office door. However, it is a good idea to let us know when you have put something in the box as we don't always remember to check it. Please keep in mind that the box is not weather proof!

4-H Code of Conduct

The 4-H Code of Conduct (Code) appears on permission forms as well as registration forms for the fair. It represents a standard of behavior for 4-H members and their parents. By signing, parents and members agree to behave in accordance with the Code. As with so many documents we sign, the Code may be overlooked or believed to be understood. We are asking you to review the Code with your members and remind them to follow it. For most who read the Code, the requirements don't seem stringent or unreasonable. It asks that all members of the 4-H community (parents, leaders and members) practice consideration for others, good sportsmanship, and honesty. None of these should be difficult to observe; they should come naturally.

Everyone should remember that at the fair you represent not just your club but the *whole* 4-H program. How leaders, parents and members behave reflects on the entire program. This is not just "in the ring" or during competition, but everywhere. People generally have a very positive impression of the 4-H program. They read, hear, and may even have seen 4-H clubs doing community service or marching in a parade. They come to the fair each year expecting to see 4-H'ers demonstrate their skill, expertise, and poise. Positive 4-H behavior is part of the reason people return to the fair year after year.

And while good behavior reinforces people's impression of the program, it takes only one bad incident to embarrass the whole 4-H program. Unfortunately, people generalize so when they see bad behavior by one person, they associate it with the whole group.

Participating in the fair isn't just about *you*. It should be a celebration of what your entire club has achieved. Take time to recognize what others have done whether they're new members just starting out or long-time members demonstrating skills they've learned over their years in 4-H. Take time during the fair to see what other clubs have done. We have a big program in Sussex County. See what 4-H means to others.

attachments