



Recognition Plays Key Role In Oklahoma 4-H Program



BEAVER COUNTY OSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Clover Connection for Beaver County



The Share-the-Fun event goes off without a hitch. The spring livestock show is even more successful than in past years. Several members of the local shooting sports club qualify to take part in the state competition. What common denominator do all of these events have in common? Adult and youth volunteers. Karla Knoepfli, assistant Extension specialist, said both adult and youth volunteers devote much of their time and resources to help ensure the continued success of the Oklahoma 4-H Program.

“Adequate and sincere recognition is essential to keep morale and job satisfaction at the highest possible level,” Knoepfli said. “In the 4-H program recognition has two purposes. One is to acknowledge and show approval of the individual’s contributions, and the second is to motivate the volunteer to continue service and commitment to the organization.”

There have been a number of studies conducted that show the forms of recognition that brought the greatest amount of satisfaction to a volunteer leader, youth participant, parent and Extension educator. Those forms of recognition include a sincere compliment, a note of appreciation, an invitation to participate in decision-making processes because of the person’s ability to think and plan, and increased responsibility.

Knoepfli said volunteers are driven to action by three primary categories, including achievement, affiliation and power. “The achievement-motivated volunteer is both task and goal oriented,” she said. “These particular individuals will stay involved with the task and see it through completion. In addition, they need tangible rewards, prefer specific boundaries to evaluate success and view problems as challenges.” The volunteer

who is motivated through affiliation works best in groups and needs personal interaction.

“These volunteers enjoy having personal relationships with supervisors and co-workers. They work most easily with people they know well,” Knoepfli said. “They also seek socialization opportunities, need to be liked and listened to and enjoy the involvement of group projects.” Individuals who are power-motivated are those who need to impact and influence others. They work equally well alone or with groups. “They especially enjoy teaching others and are able to respond to identified needs,” she said. “These volunteers are attentive to the specific goals of the organization as a whole, respond to titles which denote authority, will seek and accept positions of authority and responsibility and are persuasive and self-starting.”

A study that was conducted in 1998 indicates that most adult volunteers are motivated to continue serving the organization by an affiliation with the clientele, such as 4-H members, or the organization itself, rather than by achievement and power motives such as recognition banquets, rewards or serving in leadership positions.

“The recognition which most tenured 4-H volunteers in that study preferred was a simple hand-written thank-you note, sent by a 4-H member with whom they interacted,” Knoepfli said. “This study also indicated that the most meaningful recognition is that expressed to the individual at a meeting, written note or spontaneous ‘pat on the back.’ In addition, the most meaningful formal recognition occurred at the county and local level. Efforts should equally emphasize informal, intrinsic and personal recognition while also continuing more formalized activities.”

LEWIS AND CLARK ESSAY CONTEST

The Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous is an event for students who will be high school juniors or seniors during the 2006-2007 school year. It is centered around the 200th anniversary of the Corps of Discovery and the exploration of the west and will take place August 13-18, 2006 in North Dakota.

Ten students from each state and territory will be selected to participate in the Youth Rendezvous based upon a Lewis and Clark essay competition. The event, including transportation, will be free of charge for those students with the winning essays along with two chaperones from each state and territory.

The essay will be evaluated on original thought about the Lewis and Clark expedition. It must be a minimum of 1,000 words, but not more than 1,500 words. Visit <http://www.lcyouthrendezvous.com/> to learn more or contact the Beaver County Extension office at 580-625-

2008 4-H CALENDAR STORY CONTEST - GET YOUR ENTRIES IN NOW - HAVE YOUR STORY FEATURED IN THE 2008 NATIONAL 4-H CALENDAR!

National 4-H Supply Service wants to hear about your favorite 4-H project and why it is meaningful. Your story could be used in the 2008 National 4-H Calendar. Sending in a submission may even get you a free gift certificate toward your next purchase of merchandise from the 4-H Source Book!

The 2008 calendar theme is "My Favorite 4-H Project." It will be up to 4-H members, volunteers, parents, staff and partners to furnish the stories that will be featured. These personal testaments must tell what, when, where, why, and how so everyone can understand how 4-H projects are meaningful. One story for each month will be featured in the calendar, and the author will receive one \$10 gift certificate towards a future purchase in the 4-H Source Book. Please limit your entry to 125 words due to the space restrictions of the calendar. Don't forget to include your contact information.

The submission deadline is April 30, 2006. Please e-mail, fax or mail your stories to:

Maria Cascioli
National 4-H Supply Service 7100 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
mcascioli@fourhcouncil.edu
Phone: 301-961-2948
Fax: 301-961-2937

CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (CWF) REMINDER

Oklahoma will participate in the Citizenship Washington Focus program, June 22-July 2, 2006. Registration forms and payment are due to the State 4-H office by March 10th. Information can be found on the State 4-H website at <http://oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/events/cwf.htm>

For additional information, please contact the Beaver County Extension Office at 580-625-3464.

NW DISTRICT INVITATIONAL TRAP SHOOT

The NW District Invitational Trap Shoot is scheduled for Saturday May 6, 2006, North of Enid at the Grand National Quail Club. It is open to all counties with Shotgun certified coaches that have trained youth that meet 4-H Shooting Sports participation guidelines. All 4-H Members must be listed on a Member Certification form signed by educator and certified coach. Educator's signature verifies all listed are current 4-H members, have received required training, and meet all eligibility requirements to participate and compete. If you have questions please contact the Beaver County Extension office at 580-625-3464.

Reminder: Beaver County Hall of Fame/ State Record- books



This is a reminder that to qualify for the Beaver County 4-H Hall of Fame, Sr. members must submit a State Record book in the Year that they apply for the Hall of Fame. State Record Books are due into the Beaver County Extension office by April 17. For more information contact the Beaver County Extension office at 580-625-3464.



4-H Horse Club March Meetings

February 18 through April 8 the horse club will be riding outside in the Beaver County Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena on Saturdays from 2pm to 4pm.

For more information contact Debbie Bolinger at 580-625-4987.

Horse Judging Workshop

On March 14 there will be a horse judging workshop from 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Beaver County Extension Office. If you are interested in entering the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest on April 8, then you should be in attendance. Please call 625-3464 by March 13 to register for this workshop.



Meat Judging Workshop

There will be a Meat Judging Workshop on March 7 for all of those who are interested in entering the State Meat Judging Contest on April 22. Please call 625-3464 by March 6 to register for this workshop.

Woodward District 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Show

The Woodward District 4-H and FFA Junior Livestock Show will be held March 4-9 at the Woodward County Fairgrounds. Please call the Beaver County Extension Office at 625-3464 for more information.



Beaver County Conservation District Annual Tree Sale!!!!

Wholesale Prices Now through March 15, 2006 Great trees for wind breaks in lots of 30 (potted) trees and 50 (barerooted)

Trees: Pines, Junipers, Spruce, Black Locust, Bur Oak, Cottonwood, Hackberry, Poplar & Elms

Shrubs: Lilac, Sandhill Plum, Cherry

Much larger trees in 1, 2, 3, and 5 gallon pots:

Evergreens-Pines, Junipers, Spruce

Deciduous trees in 5 gallon pots: Ash, Cottonwood, Elm, Maple, Oak Pistache, Sycamore, Zelkova

Ornamental trees in 5 gallon pots: Cherry, Crabapple, Pear, Plum, Redbud, & Wisteria

Fruit trees in 5 gallon pots: Blackberry, Grape, Peach, Pear Plum, Apple, Nectarine, Apricot

For order forms and more information please call: Marilyn Newman Beaver Co. Con. Dist. 580-625-3813.

2006 Beaver County Summer Youth Workshops!!!

The enrollment forms for the 2006 Beaver County Summer Youth Workshops should be received at your local school by March 10, 2007. Please take time to consider the ages allowed in each workshop. Also, some workshops have limited enrollment on a first come first serve basis. This year workshops will begin March 31, 2006. Please return your enrollment forms to the Beaver County Extension Office (not to your school) by March 24, 2006.



U p c o m i n g E v e n t s

4-H Calendar

March 4 - Horse club meeting at the Beaver County Fairgrounds rodeo arena 2pm to 4pm
 7 - Meat Judging Workshop, Beaver County Extension Office
 8-11 - Kansas City Global Conference
 11 - Horse club meeting at the Beaver County Fairgrounds rodeo arena 2pm to 4pm
 11-20 - Oklahoma Youth Expo
 14 - Horse Judging Workshop, Beaver County Extension Office
 18 - Horse club meeting at the Beaver County Fairgrounds rodeo arena 2pm to 4pm
 21 - 4-H Ambassador Application Postmark Due
 21 - Quad County Camp Planning Meeting
 24 - Beaver County 4-H Summer Youth Work shop enrollment forms due
 25 - Horse club meeting at the Beaver County Fairgrounds rodeo arena 2pm to 4pm
 25-30 - National 4-H Conference
 31 - 4-H Family Night with the Hornets
 31 - Beaver County 4-H Summer Youth Work shops begin

April 8 - State 4-H Skeet Shoot
 8 - State 4-H Horse Judging Contest
 21-22 - Discovery Unlimited
 17 - State 4-H Record books due into Beaver County Extension Office
 26 - Record book and Award Application due by noon into the State 4-H Office
 30 - **Great Salt Plains Crystal Festival**

May 2 - Judging of State 4-H Record Books and Award Applications
 13 - State Trap Shoot
 23 - Interviews for State Record Book and Award Finalists
 24-26 - State 4-H Roundup

June 3 - NW District Horse Show
 14-16 - Leadership Team Retreat
 22-24 - State 4-H Horse Show
 22-July 2 - Citizenship Washington Focus

July 22 - State Leadership Development Conference

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Beth Crumpler
 Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development



Beaver County Cooperative Extension Service
Oklahoma State University
111 W 2nd ST
PO Box 339
Beaver OK 73932