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Federation Meeting Reminder

January 25th Federation Host Clubs:
- Sunrise
- Rockin Riders
- Willing Workers

January 25th Showcase Club:
- Farside 4-Hers

March 28th Federation Host Clubs:
- Wright Explorers
- Roaming Buffalo
- Albion Aces

March 28th Showcase Club:
- Chatham Climbers

Project Bowl Meetings

Below is the weekly information for Project Bowls, please contact the coaches or the office for more information.

- Dairy – Mondays, 6:30 PM at Wright Gov’t Center, room C111 *NEW*
- Horse – Tuesdays, 6:45 PM at Wright Gov’t Center (check-in in room C111)
- Poultry – Sundays, 3:00 PM at Parkview Care Center
- Rabbit – Tuesdays, 6:30 PM at Wright Gov’t Center (check-in in room C111)
- Wildlife – Tuesdays, 6:30 PM at Wright Gov’t Center (check-in in room C111)

Horse Project Development Committee Meeting

January 14th at the Gov’t Center, Room 120, 7:00 pm

All Horse Project Members – the January PDC meeting will include discussing the proposals for the 2016 Horse Points Distribution. All youth and volunteers are welcome to attend. We will also be looking at the different committees for the summer of 2016.

Animal Science Project Development Committee Meetings

January 21st at the Gov’t Center, Room 120, 6:30 pm

Interested in helping plan the 2016 County Fair Livestock Shows? Come to this meeting to learn more. Each species has a separate area for planning and will go through the first stages of planning the shows and any educational opportunities they might want to offer.

Regional Lock-In

January 22nd to 23rd at Monticello Community Center, 6:00 pm – 7:00 am

Are you ready for a Jurassic themed lock-in?? All youth grades 6-9th are invited to this yearly event! We’ll spend all night with each other in games, activities, a dance, snacks, and more. The Community Center also has a large gym (with a potential nerf gun war), swimming pool, & rock climbing wall. Bring 4-H and non-4-H friends to this event and try to stay up the whole night!

4-H Federation Meeting

January 25th at the Gov’t Center, Room 120, 7:00 pm (Advisory at 6:15 pm)

The Wright County 4-H Federation is the governing body of our program. All 4-H families are welcome to attend as voting members of Federation. The next Federation meeting is Monday, January 25th, in Wright County Government Center Room 120 at 7 p.m. Each club is asked to send at least one representative.

Advisory Council meets at 6:15 p.m. in the same room.
4-H Foodstand Meeting

January 25th at the Gov’t Center, Room 120, After the Federation Meeting

The 4-H Foodstand meeting will be right after the January Federation meeting. This month’s planning includes donor letters, plotting the Foodstand timeline, and splitting roles and duties between members and clubs. All clubs are asked to send one representative.

Exploring Agriculture Career Day

Monday, February 15, 2016; 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus – North Star Ballroom in Student Center

4-H youth in grades 8 and up are invited to attend an exciting day at the University of Minnesota! It’s time to discover the opportunities awaiting you in the world of agriculture! From finance, advertising, teaching to engineering…these jobs and many more are waiting for future employees just like you! Come discover your interests, hear from panelists working in agriculture positions, take a short tour, enjoy a mini career fair, and learn what you should do to prepare yourself for college. There will be a college financial planning presentation at 1:30 p.m. in North Star. Parents are welcome to attend.

Registrations forms are available online and will be sent to club Key Leaders.

Registration Deadline is Monday, February 8th

Share-the-Fun & Cabin Fever Fun Events

February 20th Location TBD

8:30 AM – Practices & Member Activities begin; 1:00 PM – Showcase begins

Share-the-Fun is coming up quickly! Make sure to begin planning for your club skit or individual performance. At Share-the-Fun, clubs present a short skit (less than six minutes). The club decides the theme. The first-place club receives the opportunity to perform at the 2015 Minnesota State Fair! Other prizes are awarded as well!

We also welcome any individual or small-group talent acts to perform between club skits. Think of it as the dry run for your County Fair performances with the chance of a prize! Registrations will be sent to club Key Leaders.

**New** Games and project activities will be going on in other areas of the building so you will be entertained all morning! Even if you aren’t performing in the skit, please join us for a day filled with service projects and community bonding.

Unplugged Winter Camp

February 26th-28th, Chi Rho Retreat Center, Annandale

All youth in grades 9+ Spend a weekend unplugged from your stress and technology learning winter survival skills, leadership skills, proper dinner etiquette and creating a clear vision for your young adult life! We’ll spend time just hanging out by the fire, playing broomball, and eating lots of food!!

Highlights include:

- Survival Session with Expert Mason Grove
- Etiquette Dinner with Katie Schneider and 4-H Staff
- Living your dream keynote session with State
- 4-H Citizenship and Leadership Coordinator, Jacquie Lonning
- Lots of unplugged socializing with youth from across the state!

All the details and registration information can be found under Downloads below

Early bird registration is $75 (January 15), After January 15 cost is $85 - deadline to register is 4:30 pm Friday, February 19
Day Camp & Residence Camp Counselors

Day Camp Counselors - Any youth in grades 7th grade and older

There will be many day camps this summer around Wright County. Counselors are encouraged to attend as many as they can, but are allowed to attend only one if needed. This is a great way to start applying your leadership skills that you’ve learned from the club. It’s also fun to interact with other 4-H members from around the county while engaging with youth not in 4-H.

Residence Camp Counselors – Any youth in grades 9th grade and older

Residence Camp will occur at Lake Ann Camp in Sand Dunes State Forest this year and we are excited for that! In planning for the year applications are released in January, interviews will occur in February, and meetings will start in March. See the calendar below for tentative dates of the interviews and meetings.

Please watch for both applications to be released the first week of January.

Event Cancellation Policy

As it gets darker earlier in the day and colder each night, we need to be prepared for inclement weather. We will post cancellation notices on Wright County 4-H’s Facebook site: www.facebook.com/4hwrightcounty

Please check the site if the weather is questionable. You do not need to be a Facebook member to view our page.

Member enrollment is important as a 4-Her to make sure you get the most up-to-date information. In January, we will start sending emails to only those who are enrolled. Please re-enroll now! We also have computers available for use at the Extension Office during business hours, or during an evening meeting.

Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

Happy New Year! 4-H is starting the New Year by celebrating 4-H alumni! Most of our 4-H parents and volunteers were 4-H members themselves, and are now carrying on the tradition of supporting 4-H by having their children participate, volunteering, and often times, both!

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation is holding a Minnesota 4-H alumni reunion on Saturday, Feb. 6. Join us at the event to eat, visit, take a picture in the alumni photo booth, and participate in a service project benefitting Anna Marie’s Alliance & Salvation Army!

We hope this fun gathering provides an opportunity to gather together and celebrate all that we love about 4-H, and our fond memories and experiences in the program over the years.

Learn more and register for the event here: blog-mn4hgive.extension.umn.edu/2015/12/4-h-alumni-reunion.html

I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate dean and state 4-H director

Member Re-Enrollment

Use http://mn.4honline.com to reenroll today!

2016 SS&W spring leader certification training
The Minnesota 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Program Development Committee invites you to attend a 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife Leader Certification! The committee recommends that leaders attend the entire certification weekend every five years. Now is your chance to attend!

The training is designed for adults and youth (9th grade and older) that lead or would like to lead training in shooting sports or wildlife. Classes will be offered in the disciplines of coordinator, archery, rifle/pistol, shotgun, muzzleloading, and wildlife. This training meets the 4-H project leaders' requirements for certification and recertification. Although there is range time allocated in the schedule, the majority of the training is classroom work to become an effective instructor, not to practice your own shooting skills. Please see registration materials for full details.

The training will take place April 23-24, 2016 at St. Mary's Church and the Kanabec County Gun Club in Mora.

Registration materials will be available Feb. 1 and posted here: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/shooting-sports-certification/

The deadline to register is April 8, 2016. Disciplines fill quickly, so make sure registration forms are sent in early! All volunteers MUST have successfully completed the background screening process through their county extension office before participating in the training.

4-H summer intern positions

Are you looking for work experience in the youth development field?

Once again this year, there will be county-based 4-H summer intern positions throughout the state of Minnesota. Each internship will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about University of Minnesota Extension and explore job opportunities in 4-H Youth Development.

Most positions will be for ten or eleven weeks, with flexible starting dates.

Candidates must have a high school diploma, and at least two years of undergraduate study is preferred. Candidates must apply on-line through the University of Minnesota job site. The application materials will include a standard application, résumé, cover letter, list of three references and a college transcript.

The summer intern positions will be posted soon at www.extension.umn.edu/about/employment/. The application deadline is Feb. 15.

For more information, please contact Michele VanDyke at mvandyke@umn.edu.

4-H alumni reunion Feb. 6

You’re invited to a fun and friendly 4-H alumni reunion! On Feb. 6, 2016 at the Gold’n Plump company offices in St. Cloud, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation will host an alumni reunion from 1 - 4 p.m. Reunion activities include food and mingling, a service project, alumni photo booth and a few nostalgic surprises. Registration is open and space is limited so RSVP today! More info is available on our event website: http://z.umn.edu/4hreunion.

Save the Date: Youth Day at the Capitol March 29

Minnesota 4-H will be participating in the 2016 Youth Day at the Capitol on March 29. Join youth from throughout the state in learning about our state legislative process, and share your perspective on local issues with policy makers! Additional information will be posted online in late January at www.4-H.umn.edu/events/youth-day-at-the-capitol/index.html.

The annual event is co-sponsored by the Minnesota Alliance with Youth, Ignite Afterschool, Youthprise, Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board, Minnesota School-Age Care Alliance and YWCA of Minneapolis.
To learn more about how you can participate, contact Nicole Pokorney, Citizenship & Leadership Team Member, at 507-536-6304 or pokorney@umn.edu.

Save the Date: 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus 2017
Inauguration Jan. 17-21

Minnesota 4-H will be bringing a group of youth to participate in the 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus Presidential Inauguration 2017!

Participants will practice their roles in citizenship through service, civic education, and engagement; learn the meaning and importance of the democratic process; and explore the history of the American presidency, the election process, the role of the press, the intricacies of the Executive Branch and careers in politics.

WHO: 4-H’ers must be ages 14-19 at the time of the experience to participate

WHEN: Jan. 17-21, 2017

WHAT: Participate in workshops, sessions, and speakers; visit memorials, historical sites, and museums; and participate in Inauguration Day events, including an Inaugural Ball dinner and dance cruise.

Additional information will be posted online at http://z.umn.edu/cwfinauguration by Jan. 15.

Don't miss out on 4-H BLU registration!

Registration deadlines are Jan. 5 (central BLU) and Jan. 15 (all others)! Don’t miss the opportunity to attend the 2016 4-H Building Leadership and Understanding (BLU) events! Join the Minnesota 4-H State Ambassadors and youth from across the state for a fun filled youth leadership retreat. This year’s topic will focus on exploring your passions to "Find your Element", and envision how you can live out your passion in your life. All youth in 6th grade and above are invited to participate! For more information, contact your county Extension office, or visit the 4-H BLU website at www.4-h.umn.edu/events/blu.

Attention Minnesota 4-H dairy families!

Four reminders Minnesota 4-H dairy project members will want to keep in mind for 2016:

1. All animals must be owned or leased AND identified (data entered into 4HOnline or an ID worksheet submitted to the Extension office) before the animal's first freshening. If you want to ID a first calf heifer for the first time, please note this must be done BEFORE she calves.

2. All other ID'ing for dairy project animals must be completed by May 15. You will receive details from your county office.

3. All leased animals need a lease agreement resigned/renewed each year. To renew leases, download last year’s lease agreement OR obtain a copy from the Extension office. Obtain the appropriate signatures to renew and, if need be, update the agreement. Finally scan and email the updated lease agreement to the Extension office OR take it to the Extension office. The deadline for this is May 15. Remember, all lease forms need to be completed and uploaded prior to the animals first freshening.

4. If your "family unit" includes someone who has graduated out of 4-H or is not enrolling in dairy this year AND ID'ed in their name last year, you will want to reassign those animals to another family member. The exception is animals shown by this past dairy project member AFTER freshening. Those animals are not eligible to be shown by another 4-Her.
Complete details are available on the Dairy Information Sheet, which is posted at www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-id.

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF)

Thousands of young people from across the United States come to the National 4-H Youth Conference Center every summer to participate in CWF, a citizenship and leadership program held in Washington, DC. Through a series of speakers, committee work, field trips and social events, participants learn the importance of citizenship and social responsibility and are given the opportunity to explore, develop, and refine skills needed to be an outstanding leader on both a local and national level.

Dates

- **July 2, 2016**: A.M. Required pre-conference workshop then depart for Washington D.C.
- **July 9, 2016**: Arrive Back in Minnesota in P.M.

Application

- **Jan. 16, 2016**: All pre-application materials accessed on website.
- **Feb. 16, 2016**: CWF full application materials accessed on website. With a postmark date beginning **Feb. 16**, all required application materials and $700 down payment due.
- Check with your county 4-H program coordinator if there are other requirements for participation.

Additional information:

www.4-h.umn.edu/events/citizenship-washington-focus/index.html

Contact: Judith A. Conway, conw0076@umn.edu

Livestock volunteers are invited!

Mark your calendars for the county livestock PDC (project development committee) training webinar on **April 7, 2016**. More details to come.

Calendar

**January**

- **1**  Extension Office Closed – New Year’s Day
- **10** Wright County Ambassador Meeting, Albion Township Hall, 3:00 – 5:00 PM
- **14** Horse Project Committee Meeting, Gov’t Center, Room 120, 7:00 PM
- **18** Extension Office Closed – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- **21** Animal Science PDC Meeting, Gov’t Center Rm 120, 7:00 PM
- **22-23** 4-H Regional Lock-In, Monticello Community Center, 6:00 PM – 7:00 AM

It is never too early to start thinking about your Minnesota 4-H older youth that would be a great youth delegate for the 2017 National 4-H Conference. Be thinking about this experience for 2017. Check out the 2016 National 4-H Conference url below to learn more. (Please note that dates, age requirements, and post-conference expectations will change for 2017)

www.4-h.umn.edu/events/national-conference/index.html

Updated material for 2017 National 4-H Conference will be on this website beginning in September 2016.

Contact: Judith A. Conway, conw0076@umn.edu
### February
- **1** Residence Camp Counselor Applications Due, Extension Office, 4:30 PM
- **6-7** 4-H Central Region Building Leadership & Understanding, St. Cloud Holiday Inn & Suites
- **7** Ambassador Meeting, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- **15** Application deadline for 4-H summer intern positions
- **15** Extension Office Closed – President’s Day
- **15** Exploring Agriculture Career Day – University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus, 8:45 – 2:30 PM
- **16** Market Beef & Dairy Steer Animal ID Deadline, Extension Office, 4:30 PM
- **15-22** Residence Camp Counselor Interviews
- **20** Share-the-Fun & Cabin Fever Fun Event
- **26-28** Regional Winter Camp Retreat, Annandale, MN, 7 pm – 11 am

### March
- **5** Regional Project Bowl, Foley
- **7** Ambassador Meeting, 5:00 – 7:00 PM
- **10** Horse Project Committee Meeting, Gov’t Center, 7:00 PM
- **12** Regional Project Bowl, Hastings
- **13** Cloverbud Day
- **13** Science & Engineering Day

### April
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### May
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### June
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### July
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### August
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### September
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### October
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### November
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser

### December
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Bemidji
- **19** Regional Project Bowl, Redwood Falls
- **20** Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting
- **31** Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting Fundraiser
May
•  1  Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting, 3:30 – 5:30 PM
•  1  Ambassador Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
•  6  4-5-6 Night, Salem Lutheran Church, Greenfield, 6:00 – 9:00 PM
• 12  Horse Project Committee Meeting, Gov't Center, 7:00 PM
• 15  Tentative Residence Camp Counselor Meeting, 3:30 – 5:30 PM
• 16  Animal ID Deadline, Extension Office, 4:30 PM
• 16  New Member & Club Dues Deadline, Extension Office, 4:30 PM
• 16  New 4-H Family Night, Wright County Fairgrounds, Howard Lake, MN, 6:30 – 8:00 PM
• 30  Extension Office Closed – Memorial Day
•  TBA  LQA&E Training
•  TBA  Wildlife Day

June
•  2  Livestock PDC Meeting, Gov’t Center Rm C120, 6:30 PM
•  3-4  Tentative Overnight Residence Camp Counselor Training, Lake Ann Day Camp
• 16  Ambassador Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
• 19-24  Wright County Residence Camp, Lake Ann Day Camp
• 27  Advisory & Federation Meeting, Gov’t Center, 7:00 PM (Advisory meets at 6:15 PM)
• 28-30  Science Camp, Gov’t Center, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
•  TBA  Foodstand Meeting
•  TBA  Horse, Rabbit, Dog Project Clinics

July
•  2-9  Citizenship Washington Focus
• 19  Ambassador Meeting, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

August
•  14  Year End Ambassador Party, 1:00 PM