

**SEPTEMBER 2015****IN THIS ISSUE....**

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BEGINNING THE 4-H YEAR

Share The Leadership Load - When you share the leadership with your officers you share the responsibility, involve members in a more meaningful way, and give them "up front" experience. Often times adults feel they need to "run things" to keep meetings going smoother and faster. Members react to adult-run clubs, often by disruptive behavior, dropping out, or a general lack of enthusiasm. If you are experiencing some of these signals, here are some tips to build the club back to "member-owned".

- Select an adult in your club to be officer liaison.
- Have a special officer retreat. Get to know these kids and let them see you as behind-the-scenes-help. Explain, show, role model, rehearse the expectations for their office. Officer's Handbook (EM4721) lists responsibilities for each office.
- Meet regularly and ahead of time with the officers. Allow them to build the agenda for each meeting. Your job is to provide them with the tools to succeed at their job prior to the meeting.
- Involve officers in mapping out a program plan for the year. Club or Group Planning Book (CO227) is a useful tool for this.
- Together, go through a check sheet "Points To Look For In A Good Meeting". This exercise is explained in the Mostly Meeting section of the 4-H Club Leaders Handbook.

Taken from Pacific County Newsletter

4-H ENROLLMENT YEAR 2015-2016

The new 4-H enrollment year is right around the corner, October 1, 2015.

This year 4-H will be moving towards the General Club Leaders re-enrolling their 4-H clubs through the 4-H Online enrollment system. The transition will be challenging in some ways, the results will be much superior to the previous systems we've used. More information will be sent out later.

A valid email is critical to the re-enrolling family's ability to log-in successfully.

Thanks for your patience in this time of transition! You're doing great!

Some key things to remember are:

- ✿ Make sure all names and addresses are complete and correct. Please double check email addresses for accuracy as well, since the 4-H Focus, and other **4-H information will be sent out by email.**
- ✿ Make sure to include parent names, member's birth dates, year in 4-H, grade in school and projects are listed.
- ✿ Club financial records for the past project year are due **DECEMBER 31.**

If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office at 574-1600, or email Bonnie at yakima.4h@wsu.edu. Some of the forms are available for download at our county 4-H website <http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/4-h/4-h-forms/>.

4-H ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Starting in the upcoming 4-H year, the yearly assessment due to the 4-H Office is a suggested donation of \$10.00 per youth-member or \$25.00 per family (3+ youth members). Yearly assessments are held by the Yakima County Leaders' Council, and the funding will be used for 4-H Leader Training and Education. Your donation will help secure training materials, 4-H project books and other vital supplies in order to better support and prepare 4-H Leaders. Thanks for helping make the best better! This change was discussed and voted in during the August 18 4-H Leaders' Council Meeting



VOLUNTEER/LEADER NEWS

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

Beginning this month, all General Leaders in Yakima County will receive the 4-H Focus newsletter by mail! This change was discussed and voted in during the August 18 4-H Council Meeting. Yakima County Leaders' Council will fund the postage for these mailings. Our goal is to alleviate communication hurdles in order to share news, updates and ideas with speed and clarity. All Leaders and parents, and those who've signed-up, will still receive the Focus newsletter via email link. Anyone can get the Focus newsletter mailed to them by providing the office with stamps or funding for stamps for their mailings.

SHOOTING SPORTS: TRAIN THE TRAINERS LEVEL II TRAINING

The 2015 National 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop is scheduled for **Sept. 29th-Oct. 3rd** in San Luis Obispo, CA. This is our opportunity for Level II Instructors and to build our state instructor team.

Interested in attending? See the [Nat. 4-H SS Workshop Application](#) and the [Nat. 4-H SS Information Sheet](#) for details. The applications need approval by the [State Shooting Sports Coordinator](#) and the [State 4-H Program Director](#).

No registrations accepted after September 15th. Registration fees include: meals, lodging, meeting rooms, ranges, course materials, and supplies.

If you need to cancel your registration for any reason a \$50 cancellation fee will apply or the registration may be transferred to another suitable candidate if notification is at least one week in advance of the training and the individual registers for the same discipline.

For more information contact: [John Borba](mailto:John.Borba@ucanr.edu), jaborba@ucanr.edu.

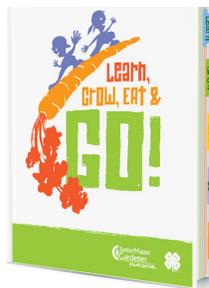
PROJECT NEWS

ARCHERY IS HOT!

Looking for an activity that provides exercise, improves math skills, teaches etiquette, requires focus, reduces stress, and is -- oh, yeah -- lots of fun? Archery is gaining in popularity all over the U.S. in schools, recreation districts and clubs.

Yakima Valley Archers 4-H club is seeking new members for the upcoming 4-H year. Must be at least 8 years old and in the 3rd grade.

For more information please contact John Harvey 698-4624. Club size is limited.



NEW YOUTH GARDENING 4-H CLUB

Gardening opens whole new areas of exploration, awareness, enjoyment, amazement and learning for children.

Do you want to learn more about gardening, recognition of plants and flowers?

Doris Sonsteli will be starting a 4-H garden club for 6-12 year olds in the Yakima and West Valley area.

If you are interested in learning more about gardening, recognition of plants and flowers, and to join the 4-H garden club, please contact Doris Sonsteli at 966-0978 for meeting dates and club information.

COUNTY NEWS



ANNUAL 4-H MEETING AND AWARDS RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

This year's annual 4-H meeting and awards recognition luncheon will be held at Fruitvale Grange, 2908 Castlevale Rd, Yakima. The annual meeting will be held at 10:00 am. All 4-H leaders, members and families are invited to attend meeting and luncheon. Youth Presentations will be given and election of officers will be held.

All Honorary Leaders are invited to attend the Honorary Leaders' meeting at 11:00 am.

The Awards will be at noon and is sponsored by Pacific Power & Light and Pomona Granges. During the luncheon a silent auction will be held. See you at the luncheon, November 7!

CLUB AWARDS

Many 4-H clubs have contributed a great deal to our community or to furthering project work in home economics or agriculture. Perhaps your club would like to apply for one of these awards this year. Traveling trophies are waiting to be awarded to deserving clubs. Applications are available on the Yakima County 4-H website and in the Extension office. The applications are due in the Extension office by **October 15**. All applications are available in the Extension Office and the 4-H website <http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/4-h/4-h-forms/>. Please consider the following opportunities:

Toppenish Rotary Club Trophy (4) – Livestock (1st & 2nd Place) and Home Economics (1st & 2nd Place): Represents outstanding achievement in Home Ec. and Agriculture project clubs. Club must have had at least 75% member

attendance at the club meetings. Applicants are judged on outstanding achievements, number and type of entries at fairs and other contests.

Inez Walter Trophy (1st Place): Represents an outstanding horse club in community service work. The service may have been of benefit to persons or groups outside of 4-H or to other 4-H'ers.

Lew Evans Memorial Trophy (1st & 2nd Place): Represents quality of community service, project, percentage of member participation, harmony and the goodwill developed within the club and the community.

Outstanding First Year Club Award (1 award): Represents a first year club in any project area that is outstanding in the number of club members taking part and the extent of harmony and goodwill created

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD AND "I DARE YOU" SCHOLARSHIP

The American Youth Foundation's National Leadership Award is a unique opportunity for you to honor extraordinary young people for their character and leadership. The award recognizes youth ages 15-18 years old who strive to be their personal best and positive difference in their schools, youth groups, 4-H clubs and communities.

Award recipients receive a personalized award certificate, a copy of William H. Danforth's motivational book "I Dare You!", and are eligible to be nominated for the "I Dare You" Scholarship.

Choose any four youth ages 15-18 that have completed their freshman year in high school and show outstanding qualities in servant leadership from your 4-H community. Nominations are due in the Extension office on or before **October 15**.

Forms are available in the Extension office or can be downloaded from the website

<http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/4-h/4-h-forms/>

4-H RECORD BOOK JUDGING

The project member record book judging is an excellent way to recognize your club members for their efforts in completing their record books. The books are due IN THE EXTENSION OFFICE by Thursday, **October 15**, for Medal of Honor and Completion Judging. Leaders – complete the form to nominate your members for these yearly awards. You can find the form on our website at <http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/4-h/4-h-forms/>.

FAIR AND SHOW NEWS

BEHIND THE SCENES 4-H FAIR TOUR

Ever wanted to know how a large fair operates? The Central WA State Fair in partnership with U.S. Cellular is offering 20 4-H youth an opportunity to find out! The 1.5 tour will take place on Saturday, October 3, time to be determined, and is only for 4-H'ers -- How cool is that! The tour will focus on the technology that goes into putting on such a large-scale event (e.g., sound/light engineering, food production, etc.). Please let the 4-H Office know if you're interested in attending ASAP so we don't miss out on offering this awesome opportunity!

CENTRAL WA STATE FAIR MODERN LIVING BUILDING ENTRIES

All 4-H Exhibits for the Modern Living Building will be accepted on **Saturday, September 19 between noon and 5:00 pm** through gate 11. This also includes the Flowers, Produce and Food entries, along with the 4-H Contest and Activities entry forms. Check the premium book for entry rules and guidelines on the fair www.fairfun.com or Diane Jones 833-3175.

Don't forget the "From the Pantry" contest. This contest will be age appropriate. When you arrive for the contest you will pick a recipe from the recipe box, get the ingredients from the cupboard. You will have one hour to prepare the food item.

Please read the 4-H Contest & Activities information sheet and entry form attached to the end of the focus or download it from the website at <http://ext100.wsu.edu/yakima/4-h/4-h-events/>.

4-H Motto – "To make the best better" Let's do our best to make this year's fair better with more and awesome entries.

STATE NEWS

WA 4-H FORUM INVITATION

On behalf of the Washington State 4-H Advisory Board, we would like to invite you to this year's 4-H Forum. It will be held at the *Holiday Inn, Downtown Everett*, on October 16-18. Registration information and workshop information available at <http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/Forum/index.htm>,

Early bird rates, registrations must be postmarked by October 1.

We are very excited about our keynote speaker, Reina Almon, a former 4-H'er and past Miss Washington. Our cap note speaker Jessica Pack, a Snohomish County 4-H Alumni, 2014 California Teacher of the year, and 2015 CUE Outstanding Teacher. We look forward to seeing you at this year's Forum!

TEEN NEWS

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT TEEN RALLY

The SE District Teen Rally will be held September 25-27 at Camp Wooten, Pomeroy, WA.

Teen Rally is an exciting, fun-filled week-end that allows youth to enjoy time with friends old and new, experience new things and participate in a variety of activities that build leadership skills. 4-H and non 4-H youth in 6-12 grade is invited to attend.

Registration fee is \$75.00 and includes lodging, T-shirt and meals (Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch & dinner and Sunday breakfast and snack.

For more information and registration forms, www.4h.wsu.edu/members/districtallies.htm,

OTHER 4-H NEWS YOU CAN USE

PNW HORSE JUDGE'S TRAINING REGISTRATION DEADLINE NEARS

The PNW 4H Horse Judge's Training, which is held every three years, is being offered again from **September 25th- 27th** at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center in Albany, OR. This is a comprehensive training for current and prospective 4H horse judges. It is also open to 4-H leaders, show managers, and parents. The objectives of the training are:

- Develop and practice 4-H horse and rider evaluation
- Discuss rule interpretations and increase understanding of the 4-H horse program
- Understand the impact that being a judge has in the area of education and youth development
- Meet and share experiences with 4-H horse judges and participants in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho (PNW)
- Learn show management skills
- Identify what judges look for in 4-H horse classes such as ranch horse, driving, showmanship, dressage, western games, and equitation

Current PNW 4-H Horse judges who did not attend the 2012 training, must attend this training in order to remain on the PNW 4H horse judges' list.

Fees: both clinics and Friday through Sunday \$250.00, Ranch horse clinic on Friday \$50.00, Driving Clinic on Friday \$50.00, Friday through Sunday only: \$200.00.

For more information and registration, <http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/horse-judges-trainings>; see the [event flyer](#); or find information on the [PNW 4-H Horse Judges Facebook](#) page. Registration Deadline is Sept. 21.

RESOURCES:

State 4-H Website:
<http://4h.wsu.edu/>

Yakima County WSU Extension Website:
<http://yakima.wsu.edu>

Yakima County 4-H Websites:
<http://yakima.wsu.edu/4-h/>
<http://www.facebook.com/YakimaCounty4H>

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



YAKIMA COUNTY EXTENSION

Washington State University Extension helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.

Alison White
Regional Specialist, 4-H Youth Development

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 2015

| | | |
|-------|---|-------------------------|
| 3 | 10:00 AM, New 4-H Leader/Volunteer Training, Extension office | Jenny Loyd 574-1600 |
| 7 | Labor Day Observed, Extension Office Closed | |
| 10 | 7:00 PM, West Valley Fair Meeting, Blue Barn, West Valley Fairgrounds, Wiley City | Greg Boisselle 941-8720 |
| 11-27 | WA State 4H Fair, Puyallup Fairgrounds, State Fair letters will be sent out to qualified contenders in the August, Bonnie, Jenny or Alison 574-1600 | |
| 19 | Noon-5:00 PM, CWSF Modern Living 4-H Contests & Activities accepted through gate 11 | Diane Jones 833-3175 |
| 21 | 6:30 PM, Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo (Grandview Fair) Mtg. Livestock Office | Yvonne Graham 305-1871 |

SEPTEMBER 2015, continued

9/25- Central Washington State Fair, Yakima Fairgrounds www.statefairpark.org. Turn in Modern Living Diane Jones 833-3175
 10/4 Building entries Saturday, September 19
 9/29- Shooting Sports Training, San Luis Obispo, CA John Borba jaborba@ucanr.edu
 10/3

OCTOBER 2015

9/25- Central Washington State Fair, Yakima Fairgrounds www.statefairpark.org. Turn in Modern Living Diane Jones 833-3175
 10/4 Building entries Saturday, September 19
 9/29- Shooting Sports Training, San Luis Obispo, CA John Borba jaborba@ucanr.edu
 10/3
 8 7:00 PM, West Valley Fair Meeting, West Valley Fire Station, 10000 Zier Rd Greg Boisselle 941-8720
 9 National 4-H Hall of Fame Ceremony during 4-H youth Conference, Chevy Chase, Maryland, more information to come later
 12 7:00 PM, Horse Council Meeting, First Street Conference Room, Yakima Kimberly Lansing 539-0247
 19 6:30 PM, Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo (Grandview Fair) Mtg. Livestock Office Yvonne Graham 305-1871

NOVEMBER 2015

7 10:00 AM, Annual Leaders' Council Meeting, Fruitvale Grange, 2908 Castlevale Rd, Yakima Alison White 574-1600
 7 11:00 AM, Annual Honorary Leaders' Meeting, Fruitvale Grange, 2908 Castlevale Rd, Yakima Jenny Loyd 574-1600
 7 Noon, Annual Youth & Leaders Awards Luncheon, Fruitvale Grange, 2908 Castlevale Rd, Yakima Bonnie Abercrombie 574-1600
 9 7:00 PM, Horse Council Meeting, First Street Conference Room, Yakima Kimberly Lansing 539-0247
 11 Veteran's Day Observed, Extension Office Closed
 12 7:00 PM, West Valley Fair Meeting, West Valley Fire Station, 10000 Zier Rd Greg Boisselle 941-8720
 16 6:30 PM, Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo (Grandview Fair) Mtg. Livestock Office Yvonne Graham 305-1871
 26-27 Thanksgiving Day Observed, Extension Office Closed

DECEMBER 2015

21 6:30 PM, Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo (Grandview Fair) Mtg. Livestock Office Yvonne Graham 305-1871
 25 Christmas Day, Extension Office Closed
 West Valley Fair Board does not meet in December. Next meeting January 2016 Greg Boisselle 941-8720