



Your Link To All The Happenings Champaign County February 2006



4- H CHATTER

Dear 4-H Advisors,

I hope you are all keeping warm. I know I was spoiled with the warm weather we have had this winter. February has brought on a touch of spring fever then hit us with a chill. Things have been picking up in the office, so we know several of you are getting your clubs established for 2006. Keep in mind you need to have 5 members for a club. This can be project or Clover Bud members.

One thing we did different was give a list of clubs to all the elementary kids to call if they are interested in 4-H. Your feedback on how that is working would be great. Here in the office we are working to get most paperwork that you will need on-line. This will help save you a trip to the office if you've misplaced or not received something in the mail. I know several of you seem to have trouble with the mail, so if you check our website frequently, we will try to keep it updated. Utilizing technology is something fairly new for the office, so we appreciate your patience in our learning curve of trying to use the web more. Please let your members know that they can go to the youth section and find dates of upcoming events also.

I hope all of you have a wonderful month.



*Happy Belated Valentine's Day
to an outstanding group of volunteers!!*

*You are all wonderful and it shows in
Your dedication to our youth!*

Sincerely,

Melinda Morrison

Melinda Morrison

Program Coordinator

4-H Youth Development

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ohio 4-H Week is March 5-11. A special section will be in the Urbana Citizen.

GREEN WRISTBANDS – The Junior Leadership Club will be selling green wristbands that say, "4-H MAKES A DIFFERENCE".

The bands will be available starting in mid to late March. They will sell for \$2.00 each. If you would like to purchase a band, see one of the Junior Leaders or contact the Extension Office.



The Ohio State University, The United States Department of Agriculture, and Champaign County Commissioners Cooperating
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GENERAL INFORMATION continued

New Advisors – If you know of anyone who would like to be a 4-H advisor, have them contact the Extension Office for the new advisor packets. All new advisors or those with a year lapse in service must have fingerprints done electronically and complete the packets. The 4-H Committee will pick up ½ of the cost.

New Advisor training dates are set for March 1 @ 6:30pm, March 20 @ 1pm, April 13 @ 1pm and April 24 @ 7pm.

Feed Records available on-line. This year there is a separate feed record for each species. The feed records are available through the Extension Office or on-line at our county website.

www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~cham

Ohio 4-H Volunteer Conference – We still have spaces available for the Volunteer Conference on March 11th. Call today to sign up. Space is limited. It's a wonderful opportunity to gather new ideas about 4-H from all around the state. For more details, contact the Extension Office.

Ask a friend to join 4-H. It's not too late. Many clubs are in the early stages of meetings. Encourage each of your members to invite a friend to a 4-H event and encourage new membership. Champaign County has one of the strongest 4-H memberships in the state. Let's strive to keep increasing those numbers. Everyone who has been involved in 4-H knows the impact it can have on our youth. Let's continue to support the Champaign County youth by encouraging them to participate in 4-H.

Enrollment Dates – Each organizational advisor should have received a packet with enrollment forms. Those are due April 1st along with the \$5 membership dues. Changes and additions to your club enrollment can be made up to APRIL 17th. All members must have livestock/animal projects in their possession by May 1st with the exception of poultry pens.

SKILLATHON CHECKOUT – If you would like to check out a skillathon for a club meeting, stop by the Extension Office to sign one out.

CLOVERBUD KITS AVAILABLE TO CHECKOUT – There will be 3 different Clover Bud kits to checkout to use at your club meetings. We have only received one so far, but the other two kits should arrive shortly. If you need activities to do for your Clover Bud meetings be sure to check out the kit. The procedure is the same for checking out a skill-a-thon kit.



Clover Bud Advisor training dates are April 26th @ 11am and again at 6:30pm.

Fairbook changes – Fair books will be available in July. Notable changes will be mentioned in upcoming newsletters. Minor changes will be available when the fair books are distributed.

Habitat for Humanity – The Champaign County Habitat for Humanity is looking for 4-H Clubs that might be interested in community projects to get involved with Habitat for Humanity. While those 16 and younger cannot actually work on the house itself, cooking meals workdays, fundraising, etc. is open. There is a possibility of a competition between 4-H groups with the top 3 getting 4-H Community Service recognition. Those interested please contact the Extension Office.



GENERAL INFORMATION continued

Food Safety Volunteer Training – Any 4-H volunteer that plans to be involved in 4-H events/activities/programs that include food preparation and/or service must attend a food safety volunteer training session. 4-H clubs or committees that plan to participate in one of the following must have one or more volunteers attend the training:

- Food concessions & Food Sales including but not limited to shows, events, contests, weigh-ins/tag-ins, for local businesses, etc.
- 4-H bake sales
- Food prepared for educational purposes (4-H camp, PAS show, species clinics, meetings, etc.)

Effective March 1, 2006, 4-H club/activities/programs that involve food preparation and/or service for educational purposes, for sale, donation or giving away, to raise funds, or to contribute to a recognition program/ activity must meet the Ohio State University Extension Food Preparation/Service Policy & Procedures.

Bonnie Sutherly, FCS, Extension Educator will be conducting two Safe Food Handling and Occasional Quantity Cook training programs. The sessions will be offered at the Extension Office Auditorium on March 13th from 6-8pm and March 31st from 6-8pm.

Camp – The highlight of many Champaign County youth's summer is 4-H Camp. The theme for Camp #1 this year is "Welcome to the Jungle" which will be held June 23-27, 2006. The theme for camp #2 this year is "Blast from the Past" which will be held July 9-13, 2006. Both camps will cost \$140 for 4-H members. Gift certificates are available through the Extension Office if families want to start paying for camp small amounts at a time.

GENERAL LIVESTOCK OPPORTUNITIES

State Livestock Skillathon Contest – This contest is a new program for livestock youth project members. It is designed similar to the National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest in which the State Livestock Skillathon Team competes in annually in Louisville, KY. Each participant will compete individually. The registration deadline is April 28, 2006. If any youth members are interested in participating, contact the Extension Office for details.

DOGS

Annual Meeting – There will be a meeting for all dog advisors on April 11, 2006 @ 7pm in Conference Room A at the Extension Office. If you have any members in your club wanting to show dogs, the advisors are highly encouraged to attend this meeting. New rules and updates for the year will be given at this time.



Family and Consumer Science

State 4-H Fashion Board – Each county could nominate one person for State 4-H Fashion Board. Congratulations and Good Luck to Lauren Dill for being chosen to represent Champaign County for 2006.

Attention all Advisors of those 4-H members taking Home Economics Projects

Saturday, March 18, 2006 from 9:00 – 12:00, our third annual member/advisor/parent training will be held at the Champaign County Community Center. This morning will focus on community service projects, knowledge based information in the areas of clothing construction and foods and nutrition, advisor training and many more things too numerous to mention. Please plan on bringing a group of your 4-H members so they can increase their knowledge and learn more about the Champaign County 4-H program! We will look forward to seeing you on Saturday March 18th at 9:00 a.m.

Non-Livestock

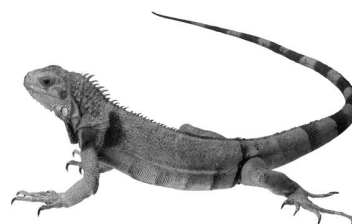
Unique Clubs – Two unique clubs have been started this year and are in need of a few more members. Please mention these two projects to your club members. If members are interested ATV (all terrain vehicles) or aerospace have them contact the Extension Office for more details.

Airplane Building Workshop – The Wright Brothers Aero plane Company, an educational institution, will be conducting workshops for youth throughout Ohio to build a replica of the world's first practical airplane, the 1905 Wright Flyer III. This replica, "The Spirit of Ohio" will be presented to the Ohio State Legislature. It will be installed in a major Ohio museum.

4-H'ers who would like to be part of this project can participate in a "rib workshop". They will help build a wing for the 1905 flyer, learn a little aviation history, and then add their name to the completed rib. When the flyer is complete, it will carry the names of all the 4-H'ers who helped in its construction whenever it is shown or on demonstration.

For more information on the workshops, contact Ron Bowerman at The Wright Brothers Aero plane Company at 419-299-3807 or via e-mail at bowerman@mail.findlay.edu

4-H Small Animal Project Judging Expanded at 2006 Ohio State Fair. One junior and one senior can be selected to be judged in each of the following small animal projects: 215 guinea pig; 216 Cat 1; 217 Cat 2; 218, Cat 3; 220 small animals; 227 pet rabbits. Reptiles and amphibians are considered self-determined projects. Judging at the state fair will include interview/skillathon as well as showmanship.



YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

JR. PORK COUNCIL – Freshman to seniors carrying a swine projects are invited to participate on the Champaign County Jr. Pork Council. For more information, contact Ron or Deb Clark at 653-3217.

JR. CATTLEMEN ORGANIZATION- All beef members 8th grade and up are invited to participate in the Jr. Cattlemen's. The group's next meeting will be March 8, 2006 7pm in the Fairgrounds Activities Building. The regular cattlemen's meeting will follow and the Jr. Cattlemen will be giving their presentation that they are giving at the beef QA's.

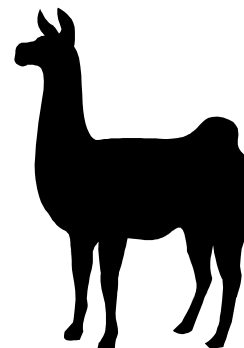
2006 HOST FAMILY OPPORTUNITIES – Don't have time and money to travel? Enjoy the exposure to different cultures which traveling brings? The Ohio 4-H International Program allows families to gain the benefits of international travel right here at home, as they welcome a new son, daughter, brother or sister from another country into their homes. Host families are responsible for lodging, meals, and family activities. Exchanges bring personal spending money, as well as medical and other insurance coverage. Host families are asked to "live their everyday life," and to simply treat their exchangee as a member of the family, with the same responsibilities and privileges as other members. Special Requirement: Families hosting a Month-long Japanese youth must have their own child of the same gender and approximate age. Host Family applications should be submitted by February 28 for first-choice placements. Applications are accepted until all exchangees are placed, which is usually March for girls and May for boys.
Japanese Labo Youth for 1 Month – July 23 to August 17 (Ages 12 –18)
Japanese Labo Adult for 2 weeks – July 23 – August 4 or August 4 – 17 (Ages 21+)

Youth Trips and Awards Available:

- Citizenship Washington Focus – June 25-July 1, 2006 Congratulations to Kelly Sell for being selected to represent Champaign County.
- State Leadership Camp – July 9-14, 2006
- 4-H Sea Camp - June 26-30, 2006
- Shooting Sports Camp – July 2-7, 2006
- State Conservation Camp – June 5-10, 2006
- Carving New Ideas –December 8-10, 2006
- Buckeye Leadership Camp March/April 2007
- Ohio Forestry Camp – June 11-16, 2006
- 4-H Boy/Girl of the Year – 2006 Fair

Llama/Alpaca

Notable fair book change: All llamas and alpacas are to be in place on the fairgrounds by 10pm Saturday, August 5th and dismissed at 4pm Friday, August 11th.



DAIRY

Feeder Calf weigh-in- All exhibitors taking dairy feeders will need to have their calves weighed and tagged on May 13th between noon and 3. All animals will need to be castrated by that time to be eligible to be tagged.

Dairy Quality Assurances will be held in conjunction with the Livestock Judging on March 25th and the Dairy Feeder Workshop on June 17th. More details will be available as the dates get closer.

Dairy Banquet will be held March 11th @ 7:30 p.m. at the Fairground's 4-H Activity Building. Contact Stuart Hess or Mark Townsley for more details.

Dairy Livestock Judging and QA will be held at the Fairgrounds on March 25th beginning at 11:00 a.m. For more details contact Jill Lokai. All dairy exhibitors are encouraged to attend.

Rabbit/Cavy

Notable fair book change: Monday August 7th 4:30pm – Junior Fair Cavy Breed Show
Wednesday, August 9th 8:45am – Junior Fair Cavy Showmanship and Optional Projects.

Next Meeting for Rabbit and Cavy Advisors will be held March 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center.

Rabbit Clinic at Champaign County Fairgrounds on March 18th would be a great opportunity for exhibitors to learn about their projects. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Registrations begin at 8:45 a.m. Sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m. Check out the Champaign County 4-H website for a look at the flyer.

BEEF

Ohio Beef Expo – March 17-19, 2006 at Ohio Expo Center (state fairgrounds). Quality Assurance and Livestock judging opportunities are available during the Expo. This is a great opportunity to get your steers and heifers out in the show ring before fair.

4-H and FFA County Beef Show – It was decided that the 4-H and FFA beef show will continue to be held separately for the 2006 Champaign County Fair.

Notable Fair Book Change: Fair Weigh-in will be held Friday of the fair beginning at 6pm.

Next meeting for the Champaign County Cattlemens will be held on March 8th 7:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds Activity Building. **The Junior Cattlemen** will meet at 7:00 p.m. prior to the meeting.

HORSE

Reminder – All horse exhibitors must complete a Permission to Participate in 4-H Horse Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims Form in order to exhibit. These forms were mailed and passed out to horse advisors. If you were missed, you can obtain the form on-line at the state (<http://horse.osu.edu>) website or pick them up at the extension office.

Members needed – There are 3 clubs who are short members, if you know of anyone who is interested in horses or your club is getting too big, contact the Extension Office and we can give a list of clubs needing more members.

Equine Affaire – More than 30 different training clinics, seminars, and demonstration throughout the four days. The largest trade show of any horse exposition in the United States including Breed and Youth Pavilions. This event will be held April 6-9th at Ohio Expo Center, Columbus. For more information go to www.equineaffaire.com

New Barn and Arenas – This year each horse exhibitor must pay \$50 to help pay for the new facilities. The fees are due no later than June 30th to be eligible to show. Monies will be collected at the Extension Office. All checks should be made out to Champaign County Agricultural Society. Many clubs are going to have fund raisers to pay for the cost to the exhibitors. If you are in need of fund raising ideas, contact the Extension Office or come to the **next horse advisor meeting on March 16th**. There will still be the horse auction which was set up to help pay for the show arena. All members are highly encouraged to continue to participate in the horse auction.

Goats

Champaign County First Ever Wether Sale – April 15, 2006 at the Champaign County Fairgrounds. The sale is being sponsored by the Champaign County Goat Council. A demo show will be held at 10am with all the wethers to be judged prior to the sale at 1pm. Registered bucks and does will sell following the wethers. Consignments are now being accepted. Contact Mary Jenkins 937-663-5169 mjenkins@champaignlandmark.com or Jeff Kizer 937-362-9770 punerdamped@aol.com.

Other Sales – March 25 – Fairfield Co. fairgrounds, Lancaster, Ohio 1pm
April 22 – Miami Co. Fairgrounds, Troy, Ohio 1pm

At 12:30 prior to each sale a few tips on raising your wethers will be presented. For more information contact Don Barger @www.ohioboergoats.com or 937-652-3628

Next Advisor Meeting – The Goat Council will hold their next meeting on March 1, 2006 @ 6:30 p.m. at Frisch's Restraunt.

Goat QA – March 8th @ 6:30 p.m.

POULTRY

Next meeting –The next poultry advisor meeting will be held on April 3rd at 7pm in the vending area of the Community Center (Extension Office).

SWINE

T-Shirt Design Contest – 4-H and FFA members are eligible to enter the t-shirt design contest sponsored by the Champaign Co. Pork Council Women. The winning design will be printed on shirts to be sold at the Pork Council's women's building during the fair.

- Rules: Contest open to any 4-H or FFA member
- Design must have a pork related theme
- Design to be made on 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Limit colors in design to 4
- Design entry deadline – May 5, 2006

Pen, ink, pencil, markers, and computerized picture and typed graphics are welcome.

Put your name and 4-H Club or FFA Chapter on the back of design and mail to Tricia Deere, 627 Mill St. North Lewisburg 43060 or Jackie Hopkins, 6880 Rosedale-Milford Center Rd, London 43140.

Taste of Pork and Bake Sale will be held at the fairgrounds on July 15, 2006 during the skillathons. The cost is \$3.50. Bake Sale items will be .50 - \$1.00. Be sure to sign up for youth door prizes.

Swine QA will be held on March 23rd @ 6:30pm in the Community Center Auditorium.

SHEEP

Sheep QA – Tuesday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m.

Born and Raised Show – Forms for the Champaign County Born and Raised Show can be obtained through Kay North. They are NOT available at the Extension Office. The final deadline for Born and Raised will be April 30th at 5pm. No Exceptions. Contact Kay North for more information. (937) 653-6412.

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