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President's Article

And so the New Year begins with a flurry of activity! February is very busy and everyone will be trying to juggle many different activities and events! I encourage parents, project leaders, resource leaders and club leaders to help at the many different events and see what a wonderful program your kids are participating in. There are always plenty of events that need volunteers and/or chaperones and I encourage you all to participate so we can continue to offer the activities and events. Without the help of our 4-H community volunteers many events would not be able to happen. It takes all of us working together to make this program so successful.

Presentation Day is coming on Feb 4th. It is an excellent opportunity to showcase your 4-H talent and I hope to see many of you there. Can't think of a better way to improve your confidence and speaking ability than Presentation Day! They also will be offering the 4-H Creed category again this year – great way to learn the creed and improve your speaking skills. Anyone know what the 4-H creed is?

Livestock Judging Contest is on February 25th at the Santa Rosa Jr. College Farm. We will again be hosting a statewide contest and I encourage teams to send in your entries for the contest. The State qualifier for the National Judging contest is March 3rd at UC Davis. The State normally offers funding of \$1,000 for teams to travel to the National Contests. Team members must be in high school or in their freshman year of college, have not participated in any college judging activities, have not previously attended a national judging contest and are active 4-H members. Full rules and requirements are available at the State 4-H website.

We have new Sonoma County 4-H All Stars and everyone will get to meet them at the CCC meeting in February. We have had an awesome All Star team this past year and we would like to thank Ben Hampton, Genevieve Patt, Jessie Peterson and Erin Bliebaum for a job well done. Come join us in February and meet your new 2012-13 All Star Team.

Diana Stornetta

From the office...

Anyone who would like to submit an article or application for the 4-H Reporter, please have it emailed to me **by the 5th of the month**, for the next Reporter. Please mark your calendars.

~Judy Ludovise

Presentation Day

Presentation Day will be held on February 4th at the 4H Center in Rohnert Park. Even if you are not giving a presentation yourself, you can come cheer on those who are! We'll have demonstrations, illustrated talks, fun skits, prepared speeches, impromptu speeches, educational displays, and more. All of the action starts at 9am and continues until noon. After the lunch break we will start the share the fun skits and cultural arts program. Feel free to come to all or part of this County event. Youth can take credit in their record book for attending. Bring your neighbors as well. It is a great introduction to the wide variety of projects offered through the 4-H program.

Livestock Judging Contest

The annual 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging contest will be held at the SRJC Shone Farm-Warren Dutton Pavilion on Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 9 am to 4 pm. Check in will begin at 8:30. Pre-registration will again be required for the contest. We will be using our computerized program again for scoring and will want to begin data entry before the contest. Entries should be submitted to Diana Stornetta via mail or email (address information on entry form). The entries must be received no later than February 18, 2012. The National contest has added Meat Goats to the contest so our contest will feature classes of Beef, Swine, Sheep, and Meat Goats. In addition there will be 3 sets of reasons. This is an excellent opportunity to improve your judging skills to help you with project animal selection and also provide you with a positive experience to improve your public speaking skills. 4-H members may wear their 4-H uniforms or appropriate attire (blazer, slacks) for reasons. Reasons will be required to receive individual and team awards. This event is open to all 4-H club members in California. Individual awards will be sponsored for 4-H 9-10, 11-13, and 14 and over, as well as team awards for beef, sheep, swine, reasons and overall. FFA individual and team awards will be provided by SRJC Ag Department. A food booth will be sponsored by the SRJC Ambassadors.

If you have any questions, please contact Diana Stornetta 823-7516.
Feel free to email Diana Stornetta at sprcrk@comcast.net for additional information, questions or to submit entries

The Online Record Book

Welcome to the 21st Century! California 4-H has taken the leap and put the Record Book online. The Online Record Book (fondly referred to as the ORB) does not replace the traditional 4-H Record Book ... it advances the traditional program with online tools and formatting.

For those who use social networks like Facebook it will likely seem familiar and will work like other social networks to connect members and volunteers enrolled in a 4-H Club or Unit. However, it is important to note that unlike Facebook the ORB uses a “closed network” controlled by the 4hOnline enrollment system. As a security measure to enhance the safety of the system for our youth only the enrolled members, parents and adult volunteers for that particular unit will be part of the unit. Parents have complete access over each 4-H member in the family and can control whether their children have access to the social sharing aspects of the ORB.

Accessing the ORB

<https://ucanr.org/4hbook>

The ORB is accessed through the link above which takes you to the logon page. Youth and Adults have separate buttons they click to access their own landing page.

Log-In Help

<http://www.ca4h.org/files/121045.pdf>

The state office has put together a step-by-step process to explain how to access the ORB for both Youth Members and Parents/Adult Volunteers. Please remember, access to the ORB is only granted to those who have approved enrollment in the 4-H Online enrollment system.

California 4-H Record Book Manual

<http://www.ca4h.org/files/2738.pdf>

The Record Book Manual was revised in September 2011 to reflect the new ORB. The changes were minimal as the ORB is not designed to replace or change the Record Book intent or process, simply to take the traditional program into an online format. On the state level Record Books produced using the ORB will be judged the same as they have been in prior years with consideration for formatting changes created by producing documents via the ORB.

Online Record Book Guide

<http://www.ca4h.org/files/123942.pdf>

A user-friendly, full-color guide with screen shots has been created and is available on the State website. It provides information and instruction on all of the elements available on the ORB and includes a useful Q&A section.

Please remember that the ORB is a new system and will have bugs. Bugs should be reports (see page 24 of the Online Record Book Guide) for the link to report a bug. Every “bug report” helps to make a stronger, more efficient system. Also, the system operates better in newer browsers which provide a richer experience for the user.



Get Your Tickets Now!

Sonoma County 4-H Camp Pasta Feed

Saturday, February 25, 2012 – Two Seatings 5:30 and 6:30 pm
4-H Center, Rohnert Park

Come support our 4-H Camp and enjoy a delicious dinner and the company of others who know and love Camp. Or come learn about Sonoma County 4-H Camp from some of the teens who are planning this summer's Camp adventures.

Enjoy all-you-can-eat pasta with your choice of pesto sauce or pomodoro sauce. You'll also be served caesar salad, garlic bread and dessert. Milk or coffee is also included. Pre-sale tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 12 and under. Look for links to the flyer/order form on Facebook and on the Sonoma County 4-H website: <http://cesonoma.ucdavis.edu/files/133280.pdf>.

Don't hesitate; ticket orders must be received in the 4-H Office by Wednesday, February 22. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door for \$12 for adults and \$6 for 12 and under. If you have questions, time to help; or photos or mementos to share please let us know at camppastafeed@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendar

Camp Dates announced for 2012

Camp 1 June 24 – 30...with staff coming in on the 24th, campers on the 25th.

Camp 2 June 30 – July 6...with staff coming in on the 30th, campers on the 31st.

Be sure to look for more information in upcoming newsletters

From the State Office

True youth-adult partnerships happen when projects or activities are initiated by young people and decision-making is shared between youth and adults. This empowers and builds the skills of young people while at the same time enabling them to access and learn from the life experience and expertise of adults.

Here are five things you can do now to increase meaningful youth participation:

1. Give youth opportunities to develop program, club, or project goals
2. Get young people involved in activity planning, training, and evaluating the program
3. Give young people choices in the program or activity
4. Give every young person an opportunity to help others
5. Ensure that adults are serving as a mentor and facilitator in all aspects of the 4-H Youth Development Program with young people taking the lead

How do you know if you are creating an environment that fosters meaningful youth participation? Here are a few indicators:

- Adults share control of the meetings, planning, activities, etc. with youth
- The program schedule allows time for youth to make choices about how they use their time
- Youth have multiple opportunities to set goals and make plans for projects and activities
- Youth are engaged in an intentional process of reflecting on what they are doing or have done
- Give youth opportunities to provide feedback on activities and changes are incorporated accordingly



Event and Activity Chairpersons

If you would like someone from our office staff to attend a 4-H event, activity or meeting, please check with us for our availability before setting the date.

Thank you for your understanding. We are working hard to provide excellent service to our 450 volunteers and 1100 youth, with greatly reduced staff time. I know all of you are feeling the pinch as well. In spite of this, I am seeing more volunteers step-up and go the extra mile. This past year, Sonoma County 4-H volunteers donated nearly **60,000** hours of service. I don't know any other organization that can be so proud!

Science, Engineering & Technology

Here are suggestions if you want to become involved with science, engineering, and technology in your 4-H Club.

1. Determine what topic you and your fellow 4-H members are most interested in. What sparks your interest? Is it exploring nature, building robots, veterinary medicine, gardening, or something else?
2. Find an adult 4-H volunteer who is willing to lead a project and work with you as a junior or teen leader.
3. Search for existing curriculum and materials. Many 4-H SET curricula are available with a focus to help youth explore science, engineering, or technology.

FREE curriculum is available at

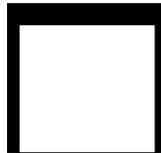
<http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/Curriculum/> Low cost curriculum is available at <http://www.4-h.org/resource-library/curriculum/>

4. Identify people in your community who are also interested in this topic. Arrange field trips and guest presentations. Strengthen an existing project with science, engineering, and technology!

Every project in 4-H can benefit from the addition of science, engineering, and technology concepts. For example, incorporate bio-security into animal science, fiber science into clothing/textiles, or nutrition and chemistry into food projects.

Connect with citizenship and service learning!

There are many ways you can extend your science, engineering, or technology project with service! Think about ways you can provide a benefit to your local community about something you've learned. Perhaps you can identify local issues and present a science demonstration at a city council meeting. Or develop a project to label storm drains and help protect your watershed. Or work with scientists at local schools, colleges, or companies to help them with their research! Participate in the 4-H National Youth Science Day during National 4-H Week in October! For more information, please visit www.ca4h.org



State 4-H Policies

Reminder to Horse Leaders and members:

Helmets must be worn at all times. No waivers are permitted or supersede this policy.

Please see the 4-H Policy content addressing this below:

XVII. EQUESTRIAN HELMETS

A. 4-H YDP Requirements

All members and adult volunteers, regardless of riding seat, shall wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet which meets ASTM/SEI standards (information about the importance of ASTM/SEI standards can be found at <http://animalscience.uconn.edu/equine/helmetSafety/index.htm>.) with secured chin harness properly fastened at all times when mounted on a horse or in a vehicle being pulled by one or more horses as part of any 4-H YDP equestrian activity.

B. Recommendations

It is recommended that a helmet be worn at all times when handling any horse (i.e., grooming, clipping, lunging, showmanship class, and other ground work in a group setting).

C. Parent and Guardian Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the rider or the rider's parent/guardian to see to it that the headgear worn complies with such approval standards and carries the proper seals, and is properly fitted and in good condition. 4-H YDP staff and adult volunteers are not responsible for checking headgear for compliance. UC makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about such headgear and cautions riders that serious injury may result despite wearing headgear, as no helmet can protect against all unforeseeable injuries in equestrian sports.

D. Compliance

At any time during a 4-H YDP equestrian activity, the adult volunteers (e.g., horse show manager, clinic organizer, club volunteer) may check a participant's equestrian helmet for proper standards. Members or adult volunteers found to be wearing an unapproved or defective helmet will not be permitted to participate in any mounted or driving activity until a proper helmet is acquired.



4-H Foundation of Sonoma County Project/Event Grants – Spring Grants

Grants are available to 4-H Clubs and county-wide projects, activities and events. Funds will not be granted for payment of judges, or for expenses normally incurred in carrying out a project. The due date for Spring 2012 grant applications is February 15, 2012. Applications can be found on the Foundation's website: www.4hfoundationofsoco.org.

4-H Foundation Spring 2011 Grant Recipients

Sonoma County 4-H Club Council

\$2,000 – 4-H Achievement Night

Sonoma County 4-H Club Council

\$1,000 – Annual Leader Training

Sonoma County 4-H Club Council

\$500.00 – Summer Lunch Program at Bayer Farms

Healdsburg 4-H Clothing Project

\$316.00 – Sewing machine parts and Maintenance

Sequoia 4-H Poultry Project

\$210.20 – Poultry Incubator

County Dairy Goat Project

\$125.00 – DVD on Ruminant Digestive System

Sequoia 4-H Arts and Crafts

\$105.00 – Craft dye kits

Forestville 4-H Poultry Project

\$45.00 – Preparation material for Avian Bowl

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR STATE RECORD BOOK WINNERS.....

Sonoma County 4-H sent 16 record books to state for judging this year. We can be very proud of the three members that received state recognition.....Catie Kunde from Green Valley, Patrick Hinde from Sequoia, and Jesse Peterson from Liberty. The complete listing is included in this article. I and R in conjunction with CCC will be having a special presentation at an upcoming CCC meeting, and will notify all state record book participants to attend. Again, congratulations to these youth.....

- Suzanne Amaral Medalist
- Vonni Lou Araya Merit Recognition
- Camilli Seth Merit Recognition
- Ellorine Carle Merit Recognition
- Cipriano Zachary Medalist
- Shelby Cover Medalist
- Jeanette Downer-Lanatti Medalist
- Gianna Fistolera Medalist
- Magdalen Grismer Medalist
- William Hamilton Medalist
- Patrick Hinde State Winner
- Catherine Kunde State Winner
- Jessie Peterson State Winner
- Kinsman Van Gerpen Medalist
- Simeon Van Gerpen Merit Recognition
- Eli Warner Medalist





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WEBSITES

Sonoma County 4-H:
http://cesonoma.ucdavis.edu/Youth_Development/
California State: 4-H: <http://ca4h.org>
4-H Foundation: www.4hfoundationofsoco.org

ANR NONDISCRIMINATION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY STATEMENT FOR UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PUBLICATIONS REGARDING PROGRAM PRACTICES – July, 2008
The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994: service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services) in any of its programs or activities.

University policy also prohibits reprisal or retaliation against any person in any of its programs or activities for making a complaint of discrimination or sexual harassment or for using or participating in the investigation or resolution process of any such complaint.

University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws.

Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607, (510) 987-0096.

Upcoming 4-H Events . . .

February

- 4 County Presentation Day
- 7 CCC Meeting 4HC
- 9 CQ committee
- 11 Teen Dinner
- 23 CQ Rep mtg, 4HC 7pm
- 25 Pasta Dinner Camp Fundraiser
- 25 Livestock Contest SRJC Shone Farm
- 28 Ex CCC mtg

March

- 6 CCC mtg 4HC 7pm
- 17 Fashion Revue 4HC 8am
- 22 CQ Rep mtg , 4HC 7pm
- 24 SC Fair Appreciation Work Day
- 27 Ex CCC mtg

