

The 4-H Newsletter



K-STATE

Research and Extension

Butler County

September 2023

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|----|
| Leader's Lounge | 2 |
| Important Dates and Deadlines | 3 |
| Kansas State Fair Information | 4 |
| National 4-H Conference | 4 |
| Shooting Sports | 5 |
| Record Books, Pins, Special Awards | 5 |
| Prepare For The New 4-H Year | 6 |
| 2023 Achievement Celebration | 7 |
| 2023-2024 Officers Training | 8 |
| Kansas State 4-H News | 9 |
| 4-H Club Meeting Reflections | 10 |
| 4-H Club Meeting Reflections (Continued) | 11 |

There Is Value In The Routine. . .

Our community clubs hold monthly meetings, but often a good chunk of members don't make it. We're all busy, and sometimes choices have to be made when schedules conflict.

One of the things I've heard is that, "meetings are boring." We are among friends here, so I think we can admit that sometimes the more basic and fundamental things that we do in any activity aren't the most fun. Running drills isn't really fun. Practicing scales isn't really fun. But these things set us up for success in the future. Sometimes boring just means routine, but routine becomes habit and eventually a skill we possess without having to think much about it.

Teachers and employers tell us over and over that they can pick 4-Hers out of a crowd due to their speaking ability, work ethic, and ability to lead and follow instructions. Many of these skills are practiced in club meetings. Parliamentary procedure, or simply running a meeting with an agenda and keeping it on topic, is something that many adults in work settings struggle to do effectively. Public speaking is a very common fear among adults, but 4-Hers practice this from elementary school. By the time this becomes part of school curriculum, it's familiar.

So, what to do if you feel meetings are boring? Participate! Consider running for an office. Discuss motions that are on the table. Volunteer to help on committees. Anything you do becomes more interesting if you're an active participant instead of a passive observer.

Also, sign up to give a talk! Listening to other members talk about their projects or demonstrate a skill is probably the most interesting part of a meeting. It's fun to learn about other projects, and it's even more fun to see your fellow club members listening with interest as you talk about something that you enjoy.

As we start the new 4-H year, take some time to think about how you can make meetings more engaging for yourself and your fellow 4-Hers. There is value to the routine, I promise!

*Knowledge
for Life*

K-State Research and Extension
is an equal opportunity provider
and employer. www.ksre.ksu.edu

**TO MAKE THE
BEST BETTER**



Leader's Lounge

September Check-Up

- Encourage 4-H'ers to ask their friends to attend a meeting and to join your 4-H Club!
- Ask your 4-H parents to encourage others to get involved

Review

- Read the *4-H Newsletter* and mark important dates on the calendar.
- Review highlights from the *4-H Newsletter* at your club meeting.

To-Do

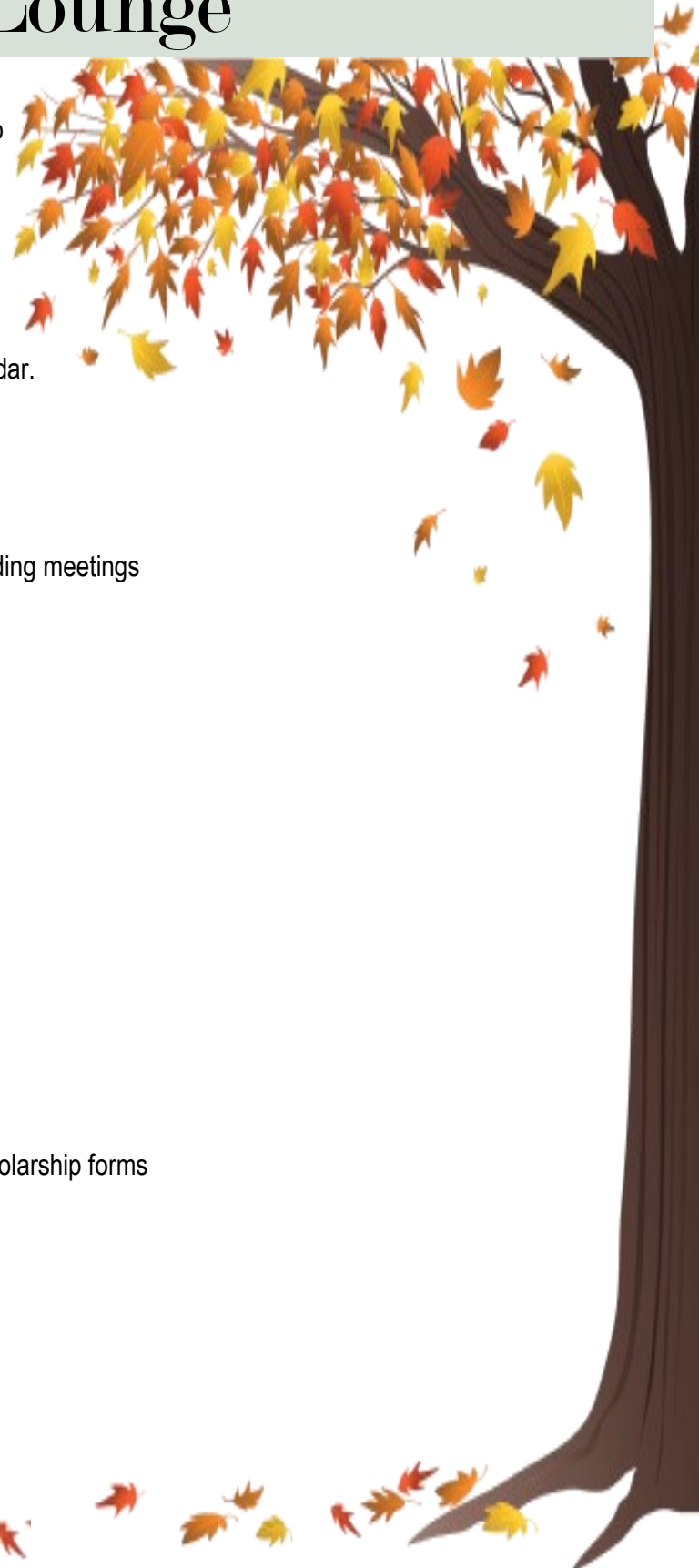
- Check in with project leaders to ensure they are on task and holding meetings
- Check club mailbox at the Extension Office
- Help 4-H'ers plan and prepare record books
- Begin preparing yearly Club Summary

Promote/Recruit

- Club Participation at Achievement Celebration
- Participation at the Kansas State Fair
- Older 4-H'ers applying to be an Ambassador

Remember/Remind

- 4-H Families to get enrolled for the new 4-H year in October
- 4-H Families to prepare and submit record books and award scholarship forms



Important Dates and Deadlines

September

- ❑ **September 2nd:** Kansas State Fair 4-H Dog Show – Hutchinson, Expo Center
- ❑ **September 6th:** State Fair Entry Drop-Off at the 4-H/Community Building **3:00 PM—6:00 PM ONLY**
- ❑ **September 8th-17th:** Kansas State Fair—Hutchinson
- ❑ **September 22nd:** All pin applications, scholarships, record keeping forms, special award apps, club summaries, Ambassador apps **due**
- ❑ **September 22nd:** Club end of year/Quarterly reports **due**
- ❑ **September 23rd:** State 4-H Hunting Skills Field Day - Junction City
- ❑ **September 28th:** 4-H Council Meeting
- ❑ **September 29th-October 1st:** Kansas Junior Livestock Show
- ❑ **September 30th:** State Archery Match - Wakarusa

October

- ❑ **October 1st:** The 2023-2024 4-H year begins
- ❑ **October 2nd:** National 4-H Conference Applications **Due**
- ❑ **October 7th:** State Small Bore & Muzzleloading Match - Topeka
- ❑ **October 14th-15th:** State Shotgun Match - Wichita
- ❑ **October 16th:** Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) Registration **Deadline**
- ❑ **October 7th-8th:** 48 Hours of 4-H
- ❑ **October 28th:** Achievement Celebration

November

- ❑ **November 18th-19th:** Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF)



2023 Kansas State Fair Information

We are excited about another fantastic Kansas State Fair coming up this September!

Please make note of a few things....

Project Drop Off Information: (Refer to the email sent to those entered)

- Static entries will be accepted for the Kansas State Fair on Wednesday, September 6th from 3 – 6 PM **ONLY**.
- If your entries are at all fragile, please package them securely for transport.
- If you wish to drop items off on your own, this will take place on September 7th between 8 AM – 1 PM.
- Before dropping your entry off at our office or the State Fair, please review the Fair Book for your entry area(s) to make sure that you have completed all of the required forms for that division.
 - The Fair Book, Fair Schedule and forms for each project area can be found [HERE](#)



2023 National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference is a working conference in which youth and adults, at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture, assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development programs nationally and in their communities. This event brings together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension Staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces.

The event provides youth the opportunity to acquire practical knowledge and skills to reinforce the attitudes and motivation that will give them a heightened sense of responsibility and capacity to connect with others as active member of society. Youth will engage in educational activities to explore, practice and master civic engagement skills and personal development to make a difference in their community, country and world.

Any 4-H youth member program age 15-18 may apply for the opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C. Applications are due October 2, 2023, local Extension Units may require an earlier deadline for their families. Applicants are screened and top applicants will be invited for interview. Up to six Kansas youth may be selected to attend this event.

One or two adult chaperones will also be selected to accompany the delegation. Chaperones must be at least 21 years old and must be a registered volunteer. Interested adult volunteers and Extension Staff should contact Beth Hinshaw at bhinshaw@ksu.edu or Dona Ratliff at dsratliff@ksu.edu. Cost to attend is approximately \$2000. 4-H clubs, 4-H councils, local 4-H Foundations and local service groups have helped many delegates with this fee. Additional conference fees are sponsored by the Kansas 4-H Foundation and their generous donors.

More information and applications can be found [HERE](#)

Shooting Sports

The 2023 Kansas 4-H State 4-H Shooting Sports Matches are scheduled as follows:

- State 4-H Hunting Skills Field Day - September 23, Junction City
- State Archery Match- September 30, Wakarusa
- State Small Bore & Muzzleloading Match- October 7, Topeka
- State Shotgun Match- October 14-15, Wichita

Learn more [HERE](#)



Record Books, Pins, Special Awards

It's time to get your record book and pin applications done!!!

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING THE DOCUMENTS LISTED BELOW—5:00 p.m, Friday September 22nd.

- All KAP's (record books)
- Pin applications
- Club summaries
- College scholarship applications
- Reporter and secretary notebooks
- Ambassador applications
- Special award applications

Don't miss this deadline! All forms and information can be found online at www.butler.ksu.edu/4h/

WANT TO HELP JUDGE RECORD BOOKS?

If you are interested in helping judge record book, adult or teen leader over the age of 13, please let Charlene know! This is a great learning experience. Those that have participated in the past really enjoyed the opportunity, as well as, picked up ideas and lessons learned from judging them.

We exchange our senior record books with Cowley County. They judge our senior KAP's and we judge theirs. We also judge our junior and intermediate KAP's.

Don't worry if you have never judged before, we will help you get started! This is a great opportunity to learn, volunteer and give back!

Judging will take place on **Monday, October 2nd from 5:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.** at the Extension Office. Any time you can volunteer (even if only for 30 min) is greatly appreciated!

Prepare For The New 4-H Year!

4-H'ers

- Try a new project! Find a list [HERE](#)
- Invite a friend to a 4-H meeting!
- Consider running for an office in your club!
- Plan a presentation for a club meeting!

Parents

- Don't forget to enroll in 4-HOnline beginning October 1
- Sign up to become a volunteer! Contact the Extension Office for more information
- Verify that the family email address on file is the best for us to use to communicate with you
- Encourage 4-H'ers in your family and club to try something new, such as a project or presentation. Getting out of our comfort zone fosters growth!
- Invite another family to a meeting or 4-H event to learn about our program



2023 Achievement Celebration



**SAVE THE DATE!!
MORE INFORMATION TO COME!**

Officer's Training

Due to schedules and staffing—there will not be an in-person Officer's Training held this year.

Clubs are encouraged to conduct their own training. This is a great opportunity for others to learn about the offices as well and spark interest for future years! Have fun with!

There is a wealth of information available for officer positions and duties located here: <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/leader-resources/clubcorner/officer-resources/index.html>



Kansas State 4-H News

Setting goals is emphasis for newer, older 4-Hers

While goals vary, the foundation is very similar

By Annika Wiebers, K-State Research and Extension news service

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Making goals is an important life skill, and one that is a teaching point in 4-H, one of the largest youth organizations in the United States.

Two Kansas 4-H members – 10 years apart – said that their personal goals may seem quite different now, but they started from a similar foundation.

Seven-year-old Nora Ingram of Riley County is a first-year member of the College Hill 4-H club.

She says her favorite part of 4-H so far is “entering my chicken (in the county fair). It was fun giving her a bath.”

As for goals, Ingram said: “I want to incubate chicken (eggs), put (the chickens) in the fair and sell them. I also want to be a barrel racer, and try (showing) bunnies and dogs.”

On the older end of the 4-H spectrum is 17-year-old Rachael Kovar, also of Riley County and the College Hill 4-H club, who has been in 4-H for more than a decade.

“My favorite part of 4-H has been the different types of people I’ve been able to interact with,” she said. “I’ve met people that I never would have known without 4-H and I cherish all of these friendships.”

Despite all her experience now, it wasn’t too long ago that Kovar was also a new 4-H member with big goals.

“When I was very young, I set the goal of becoming Riley County 4-H queen when I saw 4-Hers who were leaders in my club serve in this role,” she said. “Back then, I just wanted it for the sparkly crown. As I grew older, I realized that it was so much more than that. In 2021, I was able to achieve that goal and it is probably one of my highest moments in 4-H.”

And Kovar’s best advice for new 4-H members? “Take advantage of every opportunity you are given. If there’s a project meeting, go to it. Try new things. If there’s a workshop, sign up. Camp? Sign up.

“You really get out of 4-H what you put into it, so the more opportunities you take advantage of and the more hard work you put in, the better the payoff. And you definitely will never regret it.”

4-H’s Long-reaching Effects

Compared to other youth, 4-Hers are:

4x more likely to contribute
to their communities

2x more likely to be
civically active

2x more likely to make
healthier lifestyle choices





KANSAS 4-H CLUB CORNER

4-H Club Meeting Reflections

| | Great | OK | Could Improve |
|---|-------|-------|---------------|
| 1. Agenda received prior to meeting. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Each officer does his/her job well. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| A. The President uses an agenda. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| B. The Secretary has minutes prepared. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| C. The Treasurer has report prepared. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Business part of the meeting is short and brief. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. All members take part in discussion. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Officers avoid doing all the talking. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Volunteers avoid doing all the talking. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Meeting place is set up when members start to arrive. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Guests are introduced and welcomed. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Educational program is interesting and interactive. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. At least one project talk or demonstration by a 4-H member is given at each meeting. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Recreation is appropriate and suitable to the meeting place and size of group. Gets everyone involved. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Refreshments are offered. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 11. Members engaged in learning. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 12. Members connected with each other. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 13. Meetings are fun and productive. | _____ | _____ | _____ |

For Virtual Meetings

| | Great | OK | Could Improve |
|--|-------|-------|---------------|
| 1. Members know how to mute, raise hand to be recognized, etc. (knowing it could be different for each club and the platform used). | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Video cameras on, showing engaged members. | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Ensured safety from Zoom Bombers. (Using a password, creating a waiting room upon entry, locking the room once everyone has been admitted.) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Used safety precautions with youth only sharing first name on screen. | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Adapted from Strengthening 4-H Club Resources, Kansas 4-H Youth Development

Local Contact Information

Charlene Miller, Butler County Agriculture Agent and Director of Extension
 (316) 321-9660
 cmmiller1@ksu.edu

Kansas4-H.org



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director of K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts.