Spring Plant Sale

Rowan County 4-H is now taking orders for their annual Spring Plant Sale. Varieties available include: raspberries – Nova; blueberries – Brightwell, Climax and Powderblue; blackberries – Apache and Arapaho; muscadines – Welder and Bountiful and figs - Celeste. Raspberries, blueberries, blackberries, muscadines and figs are in one-gallon containers and are well adapted to the piedmont growing conditions. The cost for each plant is $9 each or $8 if five or more of the same variety are ordered.

If you would like to help support the Rowan County 4-H program, please call the Extension Office at 704-216-8970 to place your order today! Orders must be received by February 24, 2010.

Volunteer Leaders Conference

The North Carolina Volunteer Leaders Conference will be held February 5-7, 2010, at the Sheraton Imperial, Research Triangle Park. Leaders, remember that we are responsible for donating a basket for the raffle. Our basket will be “A Taste of Rowan.” Please make sure I have received all donated items by Wednesday, February 4!

2010 Beekeeping Essay

The theme for the 2010 Beekeeping Essay is “Is My Community Honey Bee-Friendly?” For this essay, you should survey your community to see what is being done, or could be done to help honey bees. For more information, go online at http://ipm.ncsu.edu/4-H/essay.html or contact Sara at 704-216-8970. State and national winners will be recognized. Essays are due to the Extension Office by February 9, 2009.
County Council Meeting

What is County Council? Rowan County 4-H County Council is comprised of club officers, at-large members and club representatives. The purpose of County Council is to provide an opportunity for youth to develop citizenship, leadership and life skill competencies by becoming actively involved in planning county level events. During meetings, members of County Council conduct business, plan county level events (such as summer fun), participate in service projects and enjoy the company of fellow 4-H’ers. Members of County Council are to share what they learn at meetings with their club members during their monthly meetings.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 11, at 7 p.m. at the Extension Office. Please call 704-216-8970 by Tuesday, February 9, to register.

Club Officer Trainings

There will be two great opportunities to learn more about the duties of club officers!

February 13 – DrDr Club Officer Training will be held at the Davidson County Extension Office. We will meet at the Rowan County Extension Office at 8:30 a.m. and will return by 12:30 p.m. Cost is free and we will be taking the 4-H van. At this workshop, current officers will learn about the duties of their office, parliamentary procedure and then participate in a mock meeting. Call 704-216-8970 by Wednesday, February 10, if you would like to attend.

March 27 – Club officer training is open to all 4-H members. Come and learn about the duties of EACH office! We will meet at the Rowan County Extension Office from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. Watch the March newsletter for more information!

Achievement Night

Rowan County 4-H’s annual Achievement Night will be held Saturday, February 27, at 6 p.m. The theme for the night is “4-H Forever!” Wear your best 4-H attire and come out for a night of fun, food and awards! It is a covered dish dinner. PALS will provide the meat, cake and paper products. RSVP by calling 704-216-8970 by Wednesday, February 24!

Attention Club Leaders!

Club recognition packets need to be returned to Sara Drake by Thursday, February 11, to ensure that each member is recognized at Achievement Night. If you have any questions about the packet, please call 704-216-8970 and let me know!

WCD Teen Retreat

Teens, mark your calendar! Teen Retreat will be March 12-14, at Betsy Jeff Penn. Teen Retreat is open to youth ages 13-19. If you are interested in attending, contact Sara Drake at 704-216-8970.
Speak Up

4-H Speak Up is a great way for you to practice your 4-H presentation or brush up on your public speaking skills. Cheryl Kane from Barton & Kane Consolidated will once again offer a great public speaking series for youth ages 7-17. The dates are: April 12, April 19, April 26, May 3, May 10 and May 17 from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. The first 4 weeks will be instruction with Cheryl. The final 2 weeks, we will work on 4-H presentations and posters (poster board will be provided). If there are more than 20 participants, we will split into 2 classes. The cost for the series is $5. Please call 704-216-8970 to register.

Expressive Arts Contest & Photo Contest

Rowan County 4-H will once again be sponsoring an Expressive Arts Contest and a County Photo Contest. All entries are due by Friday, April 30, by 5 p.m. The rules, guidelines and entry forms are posted on the Rowan County 4-H Blog (http://rowancounty4-h.blogspot.com/). Entry forms are also enclosed with this newsletter. You must complete a separate form for each entry. You may make as many additional copies as you need.

NC Operation: Military Kids Visual Arts Contest

NC OMK is excited to announce the 3rd Annual NC Operation: Military Kids Visual Arts Contest. The contest is open to all North Carolina youth. Age categories are 5-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-15 and 16-19. Designed to introduce youth to the Visual Arts as a part of the 4-H Expressive Arts Curriculum, youth will utilize their skills and their artistry to capture their views of America and patriotism.

This year’s themes are:
- Celebrating Military Careers
- Honoring Our Heroes
- Growing Up in America

Contest rules and guidelines can be downloaded from http://rowan4-h.com

All visual art must have been created by youth between the dates of January 1, 2010 and the time of entry. ENTRIES must be turned in by Thursday, April 15.
Instructors for Summer Fun Needed

We are fast approaching summer and that means 4-H Summer Fun! If you would like to teach a workshop, or know someone who would, please let me know as soon as possible. You can download a 4-H Summer Fun Class Proposal from the 4-H website or stop by the office for a copy.

4-H Summer Camp

Rowan County 4-H is recruiting campers, ages 8 to 12, for the week of June 13-18 at Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center in Reidsville, NC. During the day, you will swim, canoe, work on a craft and learn about nature and archery. In the evenings, you will gather around a campfire, share skits and talents and learn games and dances. Space is limited, so call today.

Other camps available include 4-H Horsemanship Camp, Fur, Fish and Game Rendezvous, Forestry Camp, Target Shooting Sports Camp, Whitewater Adventures, Marine Science and Sailing Camp, Camp Canvasback, Camp Challenge, and Cloverbud Camp. These camps are held at the various camping centers.

Bowling Fun Day

Rowan County 4-H went bowling on Monday, January 18! We had 29 bowlers and many spectators. Everyone had a great time!
Riding Safety Headgear Policy

FOR ALL 4-H MEMBERS!! Effective 2010, certified helmets MUST be worn by ALL 4-H’ers while mounted!

I-F.23. Riding Safety Headgear Policy
The North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Horse Program (“the 4-H Program”) requires all riders to wear protective headgear that meets or surpasses current applicable ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards while riding during all County, District and State 4-H Horse Program sponsored events and activities. This headgear must be properly fitted, properly worn on the top of the head, and worn with the harness securely fastened. Events and activities covered by this Rule include, but are not limited to: 4-H Horse Shows, 4-H Horsemanship Camps, 4-H Trail Rides, and 4-H Horse Drill Teams.

The term “riding” as used in this Rule (I-F.23) shall refer to the riding or driving of a horse or pony in a 4-H sponsored event or activity. The term “rider” as used in this Rule refers to a person engaged in riding. The 4-H Horse Program and the show committees, officials, judges, extension personnel and volunteers associated with the 4-H Horse Program shall enforce this Rule during 4-H Program events and activities. Any rider violating this rule will be immediately prohibited from further riding, and shall be barred or disqualified from the event or activity in which the rider is engaged at the time of the violation. It is the responsibility of the rider, and the parent or guardian of the rider, to confirm that the headgear worn by the rider complies with safety standards set forth above; is properly fitted, fastened, and worn; and is in such a condition that it would protect the rider in the case of an accident. The 4-H Horse Program and the show committees, officials, judges, extension personnel and volunteers associated with the 4-H Horse Program are not responsible for checking headgear worn by riders for compliance with this Rule.

The 4-H Horse Program makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, concerning the headgear worn by any rider during a 4-H Program sponsored event or activity. In particular, the 4-H Program makes no representation or warranty concerning the safety performance of any headgear worn by any rider. The 4-H Program cautions riders that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear as all equestrian sports involve inherent dangerous risk and as no headgear can protect against all foreseeable injuries.

Fuzzy Fun Horse Show
The Fuzzy Fun Horse Show had to be postponed. Watch upcoming newsletters or visit http://race4-h.blogspot.com/ for more information!

WCD 4-H Horse Bowl
The East Equine Explorers 4-H club will represent Rowan County 4-H at the annual West Central District 4-H Horse Quiz Bowl in Iredell County on January 30. Good luck!

WCD 4-H Horse Bowl

Good Luck

Fuzzy Fun Horse Show

Good Luck
Club Spotlight

What is “Club Spotlight?” This section of the newsletter is devoted to 4-H club news. Club reporters should submit club news to the 4-H office after each meeting. This information will be “spotlighted” in the 4-H newsletter each month.

Call the 4-H Office if you need more 4-H Club Reporter forms.

REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR CLUB REPORT

East Equine Explorers
At the January 7 EEE meeting, we had a lesson on parliamentary procedure. We learned who does what and how to parliamentary procedure. We then made trail mix practicing what we learned. We found out that if we asked for a question, we could put an end to the discussion and vote. We will not meet in February. Our next meeting is on March 4 at Rockwater Farms.

By: Michaela Patterson

NC Kids
NC Kids met on Nov. 12 and reviewed all we’ve learned during the year. Our December meeting was a wonderful Christmas party. We made several crafts, including ornaments from jar lids and Christmas cards, ornaments from pipe cleaners and beads, and a card holder from a cardboard roll and ribbon. We had a lot of party food and the Mom's did a cookie exchange. To start out the new year, we met on Jan. 6 at the Dan Nicholas Nature Center. Not only did we look at the snakes on display, we got to touch one, a corn snake. We also touched a baby alligator and a chinchilla, and got to learn about owls and frogs also. We finished up the meeting by playing at the park.

By: Holly Wallace

Grace Ridge
Grace Ridge 4-H Club held a food show and it went really well. We had about 10 kids make either dessert or an appetizer. They all had so much fun. Most of them said they hope to take part in the “Big food show” and feel like they know what they are doing now. The kids were so proud of what they made. They loved the ribbons.

By: Cerise Wiltsie
# Calendar of Events…

**February**

- **5-7** Volunteer Leader’s Conference
- **9** Beekeeping Essay Due
- **11** County Council Meeting – 7 p.m.
  - Club Recognition Packets Due
- **13** DrDr Club Officer Training
- **24** Deadline to order Plants
- **26** Decorate for Achievement Night
- **27** 4-H Achievement Night

**March**

- **4** Plant Sale Pick-up
- **11** PALS/County Council Meeting
- **12-14** WCD Teen Retreat
- **20** 4-H Junior Dairy Day
- **27** Club Officer Training
- **31** Speak Up Registration Deadline

**Don't forget to get your entry forms turned in on time!!**