

**4-H EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES
FOR MADERA COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS AND LEADERS**

This is a brief summary of the events and opportunities in which 4-H members and leaders in Madera County may participate. Check current newsletter "4-H Club Notes" for the latest dates and requirements.

COUNTY LEVEL

4-H Achievement Day

Held in October usually to kickoff National 4-H week. A fun gathering for the family: barbecue dinner, clubs pins and recognition awards are presented, usually held at Madera District Fairgrounds. Nominal charge for the meal.

4-H Camp

All 4-H'ers in the county are eligible to attend summer camp in July. The camp is located at Jackass Rock in the high Sierras. Campers can fish, hike, participate in swimming, individual sports, and become involved in many different kinds of crafts. In the evening there is a campfire program with singing, skits and fun. Leaders and parents participate as Adult Counselors and teenage 4-H members participate as Youth Counselors for the camp. Dishwasher paid positions are also available.

Clothing Expo

Clothing and non-clothing members may participate in this educational activity held in April. Four levels of achievement are acquired, judged on the Danish System, with medals awarded to members who score 80% or above of the total points possible of the written and skills portion combined. One garment appropriate for the level of participation can be entered. \$1 entry fee per member. Skills are based on knowledge, skill, workmanship and modeling. Study guides are available at the 4-H office for this event. Top senior clothing winner goes to the Regional Fashion Revue.

County Presentation Day

Open to all 4-H members. This event is held in March and features demonstrations, illustrated talks, speeches, extemporaneous speeches or oral interpretations of children's literature presented by 4-H members. A demonstration is something we do all the time when we show someone how to do something by example. An illustrated talk discusses a topic largely through the use of visual charts, and a speech focuses on a topic without the use of props or visuals. Oral interpretations are performed with a script of the story. Participants are divided by age: Junior (grades 4 & 5), Intermediate (grades 6 - 8), and Senior (grades 9 & up). Demonstrations and oral interpretations may be individual or a team. Each demonstration is awarded a red, blue or gold seal. Judges select gold medalists that are eligible to compete at the regional level.

Emily Fahey Play Day

Open to all 4-H members; member, parent and leaders. Participants in the horse activities must have horse waiver on file at UCCE Office and be enrolled in a horse project. This event is held in October and has games and activities for both horse and non-horse for youth and adults to enjoy. Games can include boot race, tug-o-war, sack race, egg toss, and hen house jump. Awards are given to the three highest placing clubs and ribbons to participants. \$5.00 entry fee for the day. Horse participants must wear horse safety helmets.

Favorite Foods Day/Consumer Science Judging Day

This event is held in January and open to all 4-H members; participant does not have to be enrolled in a foods project. 4-H members and leaders are encouraged to make a food item of their choice, display it decoratively, and review their entry with the judges. Categories include dairy foods, cookies, cakes, breads, appetizers, pastries, candies, healthy\diet goodies, international foods, made from a mix, entree-main dish, decorated food, mini member, special occasion and place settings. Special awards are given for educational displays and commodity areas: beef, lamb, almonds, dairy foods, etc. Ribbons and medal awards are presented in each category; \$1 entry fee per category. After the awards, everyone has an opportunity to taste the entries. Members also participate in a judging contest of consumer items (\$1 entry fee) with awards - consumer science study guides are available at the 4-H Office.

Fair Horse Shows

The Horse Shows are open to all 4-H members enrolled in the horse project. They must own or lease their horse at least 120 days prior to the Horse Shows and have a copy of the lease on file at the 4-H office. Must also wear proper horse safety helmets during the activity. There are Western and English riding, and horse showmanship classes at Los Banos, Chowchilla and Madera District Fairs.

Horse Expo

This is a countywide educational activity held in October designed for all 4-H youth enrolled in the horse project. Four levels of achievement are acquired, judged on the Danish System, with medals given to 4-H members who score 80% or above of the total points possible of the written and skills portion combined. \$1 entry fee per member. Activities are based on knowledge, skill, horsemanship and showmanship. Study guides are available at the 4-H office. Horse and helmet waivers must be on file at the UCCE 4-H office and all participants must wear proper horse safety helmets during the activity.

Livestock Expo

A countywide educational activity held in March designed for all 4-H youth interested in Livestock (beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, dairy goats). Levels of achievement are acquired in all species with county awards available. \$1 entry fee per member. Activities are based on knowledge, skill, livestock evaluation and showmanship. Study guides are available at the 4-H office for this event. Livestock liability must be on file at the U.C.C.E. office.

Officer and Leadership Training Day

A countywide educational activity held in August designed for club officers, Jr/Teen Leaders and Leaders. Workshops include training for specific offices, parliamentary procedure, record keeping and 4-H policies and opportunities.

Small Animal Expo.

A countywide educational activity held in February designed for all 4-H youth interested in small animals (dogs, poultry and rabbits). Activity is based on knowledge, skill showmanship, and judging of small animals. Levels of achievement are required with county awards available for those who attain 80% of the total points possible. \$1 entry fee per member. Study guides are available at the 4-H office for this event.

REGIONAL LEVEL-SOUTH CENTRAL (Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Mariposa, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz)

L.C.O.R.T./Leadership Conference of Regional Teens

Each club may select 7th, 8th or 9th grade 4-H members as delegate for this conference in the late January. There are a series of leadership training workshops along with recreation. All 7th, 8th and 9th grade youth are encourage to attend. Registration is due early December.

Make-It-Yourself-With-Wool Contest- (Regional competition not a 4-H contest)

Open to anyone between the ages of 10 and 24 who makes a wool garment and models it. It is an opportunity that many 4-H members have taken and have won substantial prizes in the way of woolen materials, sewing equipment, etc.

Regional Fashion Revue

Regional Fashion Revue is highlighted at Regional Teen Leader Conference held in November. The top senior (14 years old January 1 of current 4-H year) clothing, recycled clothing and purchased ensemble winners selected at county level to go to Regional Fashion Revue.

Regional Presentation Day

Members who receive a gold seal or a gold medal are eligible to advance to Regional Presentation Day held each year several weeks after County Presentation Day. Regional Presentation Day alternates between Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties. Gold medalists selected at Regional Presentation Day are eligible to give their demonstration at State Fair.

STIR Sectional Teen Involvement Retreat

A regional leadership conference for 10th grade and up held in August. Conference goals are to gain a broader perspective of current social and global issues effecting youth through workshops and interaction with one another. Registration is due early part of August.

STATE LEVEL

Citizenship-Sacramento Focus Program

Must be 13 years of age (or 8th grade graduate) and selected in October by Leaders Council. This is a five-day travel program for junior and senior high school members to study the historic, economic, cultural, and political aspects of the State of California. Madera County youth must fulfill pre-application criteria, fill out an application and are interviewed in October. Planned group fundraisers help offset the cost of the trip.

Junior Grand National Exposition

This is a five day livestock show held in November at the Cow Palace in San Francisco Beef, sheep, swine, dairy cattle, goats and horses are shown by 4-H and FFA members throughout the state. Information and deadlines are listed in the "4-H Club Notes". Two 4-H members can be nominated by the county 4-H office to serve on Cow Town Council. Members can also apply for merit award scholarships and college scholarships.

State Fair

Livestock, horse and dog shows, and blue ribbon quality junior exhibits are part of the State Fair held each year in August in Sacramento. Entries are available from the 4-H office early July. County gold seal presentations (demonstrations) may be given at State Fair upon invitation. Fashion Revue gold medalists may participate in a Fashion Show at State Fair. Members who are 15 years old or older and in the 9th grade and above can also apply to be part of the State Fair task force; applications are usually requested in March-April. Members can also apply for college scholarships.

State Leaders Forum

Weekend retreat for 4-H adult volunteer leaders held each year in early November at Asilomar. Workshops are on specific projects, leadership and youth issues. Registration due September 1.

State 4-H Leadership Conference

Any member who had graduated from the 8th grade may represent his/her club at this event. It is held in August for one week at one of the University of California campuses. It is a great educational experience for the member to tour the campus and attend leadership sessions. Registration due in June.

UCD (University of California) State 4-H Field Day

An Agricultural and Environmental Sciences field day held the first weekend in March at UC Davis. Registration due early February.

WESTERN STATES

Western Regional 4-H Leaders Forum

A five day conference held January-March each year in one of the Western states. Numerous workshops on specific projects, leadership and youth issues. Three youth from each region ages 16 to 19 are selected through an essay process. Final registration due no later than December 1.

NATIONAL

Citizenship-Washington Focus Program

Must be 16 years of age or older, fulfill preapplication criteria, fill out an application and participate in an interview in October. Selected delegates must be enrolled in the citizenship project before and after the trip and fulfill delegate responsibilities as outlined by Leaders Council. Planned fundraisers help offset trip expenses. A week-long study experience focusing on the U.S. government, the legislative process, history and current events. The program begins with a visit to Gettysburg National park and 6 days at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland held in June or July.

National 4-H Conference

A week long National 4-H Conference held each year in March or April at the National 4-H Center. 10 youth and 1 adult volunteer are selected to represent California at this premiere event which complements the educational programs conducted by the State 4-H units. A major purpose of the Conference is to involve 4-H members and adults in 4-H program and development. Youth applicants must be 16 years old and are selected on their communications skills and 4-H experience. Applications are due in January.

INTERNATIONAL

Summer Japan Exchange

A year long countywide cultural exchange project is highlighted by either traveling to Japan to live with a host family or on alternate years to host a Japanese youngster in your home for five weeks in the summer. The exchange program provides a rare opportunity for 4-H and Japanese youth to develop an understanding and friendship that reaches across natural, political and cultural boundaries. Open to 4-H members 12-18 years old or older and adult leaders to act as chaperones. Applications are due late February.

Madera County Recognition Awards

Record Book County Project Winner and Medalists

A County Winner and Medalists are selected in specific project areas based on project growth, experiences in 4-H projects and activities, experiences in leadership and citizenship. Record books must be nominated by community leaders and have earned a gold seal at club level in order to be judged at County Record Book Judging the latter part of June.

Demonstration Proficiency Award

To recognize 4-H'ers who present their demonstration(s) a number of different times and increase their proficiency in making a public presentation. Requirements: 1) attend one of two county presentation day workshops, 2) give a demonstration at County Presentation Day, 3) to be followed by demonstrations given at least twice to non-4-H groups such as service clubs, classrooms, or at the fair, AND at least three times additionally such as at a project group of 5 or more people, Regional Presentation Day, and Community Club meeting. Applications are due June 15th.

Emerald Star

Any 4-H member who has achieved Bronze Star Rank and is in 7th grade or above, but has not previously held Emerald Star, All Star or Diamond Star ranks may apply. An Emerald Star applicant must present a plan of proposed leadership in October to benefit the countywide 4-H Program and to be completed during the 4-H Year and be interviewed.

Teen Leader Award Winner

TLAW is the second highest rank a member can earn at the County level. It is not just an honorary rank - it is a working rank awarded to outstanding Junior/Teen Leaders. TLAWS represent our county at State Leadership Conference and assist with the coordination and organization of county events as called upon. Applicants must be completing their Freshman year at time of application and be a Junior/Teen Leader. Selection is held in April and is based on pre-application criteria. An interview, application, and letters of recommendation are also required.

All Star

All Star is the highest star rank a member can earn at the County level. All Star is a working Star Rank awarded to 4-H members based on their leadership and communication skills. All Stars serve as County 4-H Ambassadors and also help run County 4-H activities. They represent our county at State Leadership Conference and lead sessions at the Regional Teen Leader Conference. Applicants must be 16 years old by January 1 of the year applying and have earned the gold star rank. Selection is held in April and is based on pre-application criteria. An interview, application, and letters of recommendation are also required.

Regional Recognition Awards

Sectional Project Winner and Alternates

Formal recognition for senior members (14 years old as of January 1 of current 4-H year) beyond the county level for their accomplishments within the California 4-H Program. Members are selected in specific project areas based on project growth, experiences in 4-H projects and activities, experiences in leadership and citizenship. State Incentives and Recognition applications must be filled out for judging the end of July summarizing the member's 4-H career. Regional Project winners advance to state competition.

State 4-H Ambassador

State 4-H Ambassadors are selected to recognize and reward outstanding accomplishments in the California 4-H Youth Development Program in the areas of citizenship, leadership and achievement. They serve as role models for other youth, as representatives of the California 4-H Youth Development Program, and as program developers and extenders within each Cooperative Extension region. 4-H Ambassadors make a 14 month commitment (the first year active-the second year as mentors). Candidates must be at least 16 years old but not older than 19 on January 1st of the current year, fill out an application which is due in April, obtain letters of recommendation and are interviewed.

State Recognition Awards

State Project Winner and Alternates

State 4-H Project winners and alternates are selected from the Sectional Project winners. Judging takes place in August. State project winners receive formal recognition and \$1000 savings bonds.

Jack and Robert Clay Memorial Award

\$250 savings bond for a member and \$100 cash award for a leader for outstanding achievement and leadership in camping and outdoor adventure. Applications due at State Office August 1st.

Keith Barnes Leader Recognition Award

\$200 applied to the California 4-H Leaders Forum at Asilomar. Up to 8 awards given annually as recognition to leaders for outstanding 4-H involvement at the county level and beyond. Applications due at State Office August 1st.

4-H College Scholarships for High School Seniors

Madera County

Neal Bursey 4-H Memorial Scholarship - (1) \$varies each year - due April 1.

Emily Fahey 4-H Memorial Scholarship - (1) \$250 - due April 1.

Ellen Erickson 4-H Memorial Scholarship - (1) \$1000 - due April 1.

Farm Bureau 4-H Scholarship - (Several) \$500 - due March 1.

Leaders Council 4-H Scholarships - \$ varies each year - due April 1.

Madera Ag Youth Association 4-H Scholarships - (numerous) \$100-\$500 - due April 1.

State

Cow Palace Exhibitors: \$800, \$1,000, \$2,500 - applications must be hand delivered to Cow Palace

State Fair: \$1,000 - applications due early June.

Mabel Jacks Memorial Scholarship - \$750 - due to local 4-H Office mid-July.

Samarin Family Vocational Scholarship - \$1000 - due to State 4-H August 1st.

West Coast Equine Foundation Dick Randall Memorial Scholarship - due June 30th