

December 2013

End of Year Thoughts for 4-H Volunteers:

Happy Holidays from Crawford County OSU Extension Staff- Brenda, Barb and Jason

With the Holidays right around the corner, 4-H is not on the minds of many people. But we still have some rather important things happening.

1. Need a gift? Or know 4-H families ho do? **4-H Camp Gift Certificate** may be the perfect idea for your child or grandchild. Stop in to the Extension office on the second Floor of the Court House. You can decide the denomination. We do not have final camp costs, yet but, total will be over \$160 per camper. A gift from you can help someone who might not get to go. We do not usually have final costs until April; that leaves a short turn around for saving if families have not begun before then.
2. **Teen Award selection interviews** are Monday, December 30, 2013. Applicants should watch their mail for a letter giving them their interview time. These interviews will be in the LL Conference Room at the Court House.
3. **4-H Camp Counselor Selection** is a group process from 1:30-5:30p.m. on Sunday, January 5, 2014 at the Youth Building of the Crawford County Fairgrounds. Again, a date that should be on the calendar. A reminder to those youth working, you need to ask off now.
4. **Have a beef project? It will need tagged on the morning of Saturday, January 11** at the Crawford County Fairgrounds to be eligible for show at either the Crawford County or Ohio State Fair.
5. Are you a returning member thinking about **what 4-H project to take in 2014?** Exciting new tool this year is "4-H Project Central ". Visit www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral or stop by the OSU extension office and ask to look at the book boxes. Many of the clubs also borrow them for members to review.
6. Thinking about joining 4-H, information will come out through your school in January or February. There will also be a **4-H Kick-off on Sunday, March 2 from 2-4 p.m.** at the Fairgrounds, youth Building where parents and children can come to ask questions, find a club, see project books and see camp slides from 2013. You will be hearing from 4-H Committee or Teen Advisory Committee asking your club to help with this event. Have a club table and highlight a project and share your club information.
7. **Learn to Sew with Mom/Grandma**, January 20, 2014 from 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. in Bucyrus Public Library. The intent of this workshop is to teach basics and create an interest in sewing to grow the clothing project numbers in the future. It will be taught by Carol Miller and Renee Bell, both 4-H volunteers and avid seamstresses. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Youth

must have a helpful adult, scissors, pins, a sewing machine if available and a good attitude. To register call at 419-562-8297 or OSU Extension at 419562-8731. If registered fee must be paid because supplies will be purchased.

8. Three important pieces for Volunteers:
 - a. **New Potential Volunteers need to begin the process soon.** The state required process includes: application, signed job description and standards of behavior, reference check, interview with educator, fingerprinting, and orientation (meeting or online). If you are thinking about becoming a 4-H Volunteer now is the time to start the process! Get your application online at <http://crawford.osu.edu>
 - b. **4-H Club Volunteer Update is Thursday, January 30, 2014** from 7:00 –9:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Conference Room of the Court House. Each club must have a volunteer attend; so calendars need marked now.
 - c. With the change of the umbrella organization to Ohio 4-H from National 4-H, all of our clubs now need to **complete a financial statement by January 31.**
9. **2014 is 100 years of Extension.** And we want to have a celebration at some point. We need your help! Many of the Crawford County records were destroyed in a flood in 2007, so we are left without many records. We would like to come up with a list of personnel over the years and when they served the Cooperative Extension Service, historical information about Extension clubs, stories about how Crawford County Extension has impacted your lives, and at a later time maybe a few old photos. We hope to have some online ways to collect some of this information. But you may also call or stop in.

Enjoy the Holidays!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO FOR 4-H!!