

Section IV -- 4-H Activities

Local Club Activities

Officer Training (Fall) - Each fall a training program is conducted for newly elected club officers. Training includes responsibilities of the office, leadership techniques, and “how-to” for individual officers.

Club Projects - Each year, clubs select a project that the members work on as a group. Examples of projects might include conservation, safety, people-to-people or citizenship. The purpose of the club project is to perform a service to the community and to encourage unity and fellowship between club members.

Additional Club Activities are planned by the individual 4-H clubs. Visit with your club’s community leaders about the particular activities of your local 4-H Club.

County-Wide Activities

4-H Enrichment Program— Provides 4-H project experiences to school groups, scouts and recreation directors to supplement their educational programs with materials.

4-H Club Day – 4-H’ers make public presentations to share things they’ve learned in 4-H. Presentations include project talks, public speaking, demonstrations and illustrated talks, talent, dance, musical numbers (solo and group) and model meetings. 4-H’ers are divided into junior, intermediate, and senior age divisions for competition. Top entries in each division are eligible to compete at Regional 4-H Club Day in March.

Spring Livestock Shows (April-June) – 4-H’ers enrolled in livestock projects have the opportunity to show their projects and have them evaluated by a judge.

Judging Schools & Contests (Spring & Summer) – Judging provides a fun way for 4-H’ers to learn more about their projects and how to make decisions. Judging schools are held in home economics, livestock, dairy and horticulture. 4-H’ers must compete in county contests to be eligible for selection of junior and senior judging teams.

County 4-H Camp (June) – 4-H’ers camp at Rock Springs 4-H Center, near Junction City with other 4-H’ers from Franklin, Miami, and Johnson Counties. County Camp lasts four days and three nights, and is for 4-H’ers who are 7-13 years of age. A fee is charged for each camper.

County Fair (August) – The fair provides an opportunity for youth to show their project work. Exhibits are evaluated by judges and receive a ribbon denoting its quality in comparison to a standard. Blue ribbons are used to reward exhibits of superior quality and workmanship, red ribbons are placed on above average exhibits, and white on average quality exhibits. All 4-H’ers are encouraged to make entries at the fair.



Consultation Judging – In this type of judging, the judge and 4-H member visit about the exhibit being evaluated. Knowing “why” they receive the ribbon they do greatly increases the learning experience. Consultation judging is used in several departments at the county fair. Parents may hear the conference with the judge, but may not enter into the discussion.

Achievement Celebration (Fall) – The Achievement Celebration is held each year to recognize 4-H’ers for their accomplishments during the year. Many awards including County Champion, Key Awards, Blue Awards, etc., are presented. The event is for 4-H members who exhibit at the County Fair and turn in a completed record book. Parents and other interest persons may attend.

Leader Training (Fall & Winter Months) – Training meetings are conducted in many subject matter areas for project leaders each year. Because there are more than 50 projects, training may be limited in each project area.

Bromelsick Christmas Party (December) – Every year the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and 4-H members hold a Christmas Party (place to be announced.) Funds for the party are provided through the estate of Mr. Alfred Bromelsick. The party is usually held on a Saturday in December and includes caroling, entertainment, and a Christmas treat for all in attendance.

4-H Council – The County 4-H Council is made up of older 4-H’ers and leaders from each 4-H Club. Council plans county-wide fund raising activities.

4-H Ambassadors – The Ambassador program is designed to give older 4-H members the opportunity to tell the 4-H story. A team of Ambassadors and their adult advisors develop a 4-H public relations program. Ambassadors are trained on county and state levels. Selection for the two year appointment is based on written application and an interview.

Project Skill-a-thon (Martin Luther King Day) – The Skill-s-thon provides an opportunity for youth to participate in 4-H activities when school is out. The Skill-a-thon gives youth hands on experience in various project areas, allowing them to experiment and learn more about project areas which they may not have prior knowledge. This is also an opportunity for youth to meet other 4-H’ers from across the county. Older 4-H’ers are given the opportunity to present skills and activities within various projects in which they are involved.

Citizenship Washington Focus – 4-H members 14 -18 years of age by January 1 are eligible to apply. There must be 10 delegates and 2 sponsors in order to travel as a county group. If less than 10 delegates are eligible – applications can be forwarded to the State Sponsored Trip at your request.



State & National Activities

4-H Discovery Days (Early June) – Discovery Days is a project enrichment and career exploration conference on the campus of Kansas State University. 4-H members 13 and older, 4-H leaders and parents can join over 1,600 others from all over Kansas in conference activities.

District Horse Show (July) – Senior District Shows are a preliminary for the State Fair Horse Show. 4-H'ers 9 years and older compete in performance classes to qualify for the State Fair Horse Show. The shows are held in various locations each year. There is also a Junior District Horse Show

Kansas City Global Conference (March) – 4-H'ers age 14 and older join other 4-H'ers from Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Texas at the three day conference in Kansas City, Missouri.

National 4-H Congress (November) – Each year, National 4-H Congress is attended by nearly 1,500 4-H members from all states and territories. Delegates are state winners in certain project areas.

National 4-H Conference (April) – 4-H delegates from each of the 50 states meet in Washington, D.C. to share ideas and plan for future 4-H programs. Kansas sends 2-4 delegates to the conference.

North Central Region Volunteer Forum (Fall) – Kansas 4-H adults and youth leaders are invited to participate in a four day leadership development conference.

IFYE (International 4-H Youth Exchange) – These programs provide youth age 12-25 and adult opportunities to learn another culture by living it. Programs include a four week family visit in Japan, a six to eight week experience traveling to another country, or a six-month program with the Soviet Union. Adults can spend three to four weeks touring a country to see programs similar to 4-H. The participants, Kansas 4-H Foundation, National 4-H Council, county 4-H councils, and other friends of IFYE provide funds for the youth programs.

Host Families – Kansas 4-H families can serve as hosts to IFYE exchangees. Applications are available at the Extension Office.

Campfrence (June) – An opportunity for youth ages 12-15 to learn about more opportunities with in 4-H while developing leadership skills and enjoying the camping experience at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

Citizenship In Action (CIA – February) – Two day event where youth visit the state capital in Topeka to learn more about the legislative process.



Citizenship Washington Focus – 4-H members 15 -18 years of age by January 1 are eligible to apply. Applications need to be received in September. Applications will be carefully screened and ranked in the counties will help decide who will go and be put on a waiting list as alternates. The purpose of the program is to let 4-H'ers:

- ❖ Get a close-up view of the political process through visits to Capitol Hill.
- ❖ Meet with Kansas congressional and senate delegations to discuss legislative issues.
- ❖ Visit historical sites within the Washington, D.C. area.
- ❖ Participate in workshops and assembly groups to learn life skills and discuss possible solutions to domestic and international problems.
- ❖ Interact with 4-H members from other states, learning and sharing about 4-H, and other interests and values.

County Exchange Trips

Within the State:

- ❖ Willing to travel to another county for a summer weekend.
- ❖ Willing to host the same county youth for a summer weekend.

With another State:

- ❖ Enrolled and active in the 4-H Youth Leader program.
- ❖ Payment determined by Leadership points earned during the year.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLf – November) – This event is for youth 14-18 and takes places at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Youth attend sessions designed to develop and strengthen their leadership skills.

NOTES

