

4-H Clover News

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Ford County Monthly Newsletter

November 2022

How to Reach Us:

Ford Co. Extension

100 Gunsmoke St.
Dodge City, KS 67801
620.227.4542

Hours:

8:30am—12 noon
1:00pm—5:00pm

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Check us out on the web!

www.ford.ksu.edu
www.kansas4-h.org
facebook.com/fordcounty4h



Ford County 4-H Achievement Awards Night

We hope to see all of our 4-H members and their families at the upcoming Ford County 4-H Achievement Awards Night on Saturday, November 5 starting at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served but no meal!

RSVPs are encouraged but not required to attend.

There will be no designated club tables for members and families. Families may sit at any of the tables. Awards and prizes will be given during the night! Please dress in nice clothes for the evening.

4-H ONLINE

We hope you will enroll soon for the new 2022/2023 4-H year by going online to <https://v2.4honline.com/> and renew your family's 4-H enrollment. Online enrollment began in October and enrollment is now picking up and going strong. If you have any trouble, please contact us so we can get you signed up ASAP.

The enrollment fee can be paid through the Extension Office, but you will need to indicate payment by check. You can also still pay with a credit card if you prefer. If your club is paying for member enrollments the office has a county coupon to use when enrolling. Indicate payment by check and the office will insert coupon prior to approval and your club will be billed. Clubs will need to pay 4-H Council for reimbursement.

If your family is paying the fee, you can also use a coupon by indicating payment by check. You can pay the Extension office and we can insert the coupon code prior to approval.

All health information is completed during enrollment. Once submitted the enrollment will be "pending" and will need to be "approved" by our office. If anything is missing, we will be in contact with you by email.

If you can't recall which email address you used to set up the account, give us a call or send us an email and we will help you out. DO NOT create a new family account. If you cannot remember the password used, click on "I forgot my Password" and you will be sent a temporary password to get in to your account.

Remember if you re-enroll by November 15, the club with the most re-enrollments of current members will receive a pizza party.



Important Notice

FAIR ASSOCIATION ELECTION MEETING

Tuesday, November 8, 6:30 pm, Fair Building

Join the Fair Board for soup and then attend their Annual Meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. Elections for three Fair Board members, for three year terms, will be taking place. If you'd like more information, please contact any Fair Association Member. Any Ford County resident, 18 and older can vote.

Fair Board meetings during the year are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

Fair Checks and Thank You Notes

A reminder we still have exhibitors who have not turned in thank you notes for County Fair premiums, live-stock sale etc. Please do so as soon as possible. If checks are not picked up and cashed by February 1, premiums will be forfeited and returned to the Fair Association. With the coming holiday season, we are sure you would appreciate a little extra cash .

FORD COUNTY 4-H DEADLINES & RSVP's

Deadlines and RSVP's are important. Responding to these requests in a timely fashion is important as we work to prepare for programs & meetings and out of respect for the people involved. Many times these deadlines are set by the state (i.e. KSF and KJLS entry deadlines) other times it is for handouts, food or interest in the program.

We understand that sometimes things come up and we will try our best to accommodate if we can. While we hate to turn anyone away, we are not always able to accept or accommodate late additions or late responses. Responsibility is one of the life skills that 4-H strives to teach young people. Please be courteous of everyone's time and help us to instill these virtues in our young people. This will help us to run a more efficient and effective 4-H program.

4-H Community Leader and 4-H Council Meetings



The next 4-H Community Leader and 4-H Council meetings will be **Monday, November 28, 6:30 pm. and 7:00 pm. at the Ford County Fair Building.** 4-H Council Officer Elections will be held.

To assist with trying to keep 4-H Council meetings moving along and not too long, we asked those members wanting to run for an office to complete an Officer Application. This application can be found online on our main page on our Ford County's website. This needs to be submitted before the next Council Meeting, November 28. Only those submitting nomination forms will be considered for the office.

The Parade of Lights is also scheduled for Monday, November 28. Ford County 4-H Council has provided Chili and drinks for parade participants who would like to eat prior to the parade starting. If we have chili left prior to our meetings, members may also eat.

We will start serving at approximately 5:00 pm. If your club can help with any of the ingredients or with serving, please let Ethel know at the Extension Office. **Farm Bureau is providing the hamburger meat and Richland Boosters club has volunteered to provide the hot chocolate mix. This is one of the 4-H Council's community service projects for the year.**

Officer Training

Don't forget Officer Training will be held on Saturday, November 12, 11 am to 2 pm. At the Dodge city Senior Center. Members will need to register by November 8 to the office There will be a session for Community Leaders so we hope community leaders will plan to attend. If low registration, the training may be cancelled.

PROJECT SELECTION

It is very important to sit down as a family to select 4-H projects for the upcoming year. **4-H IS A FAMILY AFFAIR**, so time required, costs involved, parental help, etc. should all be carefully considered when selecting projects. A 4-H project is designed to encompass the entire 4-H year, including project meetings, special events/contests, individual time, fair exhibits, record books, etc. It is usually suggested to take only a few projects when first starting in 4-H. We have project selection guides available in the office if you'd like to learn more about the different projects offered.

Setting 4-H Project Goals

Writing 4-H project goals should take place towards the beginning of the 4-H year, and NOT right before record books are due. This publication will guide the 4-H member as they write and set 4-H project goals for the year ahead. Once the young person has selected their 4-H projects, they should plan out what they would like to learn and accomplish. It is very helpful when this process is done with the guidance of an adult volunteer or junior teen leader. Setting measurable goals will help ensure that the 4-H member has a positive 4-H project learning experience.

This publication may be filled out by hand, or is available as a form-fillable pdf. There is room on the publication for up to four project areas, but they are encouraged to attach additional pages as necessary. Download at <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/4H1100.pdf>

Leaders and Volunteers

All Community Club Leaders and Project Leaders need to sign up online as well. Leaders will need to go online and submit their Volunteer forms to 4-H Online to be approved. Also note that parents do not need to sign up online unless they are going to be a Community Club Leader, a Project Leader, driver to activities, etc.. If you are interested in becoming a new leader, please complete the Kansas 4-H Volunteer Service application through the 4-H Online system. Go to <https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/4-h-online-family-resources/index.html> for an enrollment guide for volunteers.

A registered 4-H Volunteer is a volunteer, adult or teen who has completed the full process including: application, screening and orientation. For the safety of both 4-H members and adults, this system is in place. Each year, NEW 4-H volunteers must apply for certification, or in the case of a returning volunteer, renew their status via a renewal form. Both forms are now available through 4-H Online.

• NEW 4-H Volunteer:

- *Sign up on 4-H online
- *Complete the online Orientation
- *Complete a Child Abuse and Neglect Registry Form and the National Criminal Background Check online

• Returning 4-H Volunteer:

- ◇ Fill out Volunteer Annual Renewal online
- ◇ Check with office to see if you need to do an updated background check.

• Who needs to be Volunteer certified?

- Community Leaders
- Cloverbud Leaders
- Project Leaders (all—teens, adults, etc.)
- Camp Counselors
- Hosting Exchange Parents
- Any person who will be in contact with 4-H youth for more than 6 hours.

County-Wide Project Leaders

The Ford County 4-H Program is always **looking for County-Wide Project Leaders who will share their expertise, time and effort with our 4-H'ers.** If you know of anyone who wants to get involved with the 4-H Program, please have them contact the Extension Office! Project Leaders give our members an extra 'edge' in their 4-H Experience! County-Wide Project leader will be listed in future newsletters as they are confirmed.

Scholarships Available for Camps and Events like KYLF:

Remember there are scholarships you can apply for if you are interested in attending.

The Ford County 4-H Foundation provides a \$50 scholarship.

There is also the Scroggins Camp/Event Scholarship.

All 4-H'ers of Ford and Gray County have the opportunity to apply for the Scroggins State 4-H Camp/Event Scholarship. Campers wishing to attend a State 4-H Camp (i.e. Discovery Days, Campference, KYLF, Space Tech Camp, Sewing Camp, etc.) are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Those interested in applying for a Scroggins Camp Scholarship, must fill out the 'Scroggins State Camp/Event Scholarship Application' by the Camp Registration Deadline. The number and amount of awards will be determined by the individual county, with consideration to existing support, participation, and county need. Selection will be based on expressed need. For project specific camps/events, preference will be given to 4-H'ers enrolled in the project. No more than one scholarship may be received per 4-H'er/per 4-H year (October 1—September 30). Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications are available on ford.ksu.edu under the 4-H tab or at the Extension Office.

The Vibrant 4-H Club

- ◆ Focuses on Weaning, Not Winning
- ◆ Is Firm, Yet Flexible
- ◆ Works Hard and Plays Hard
- ◆ Empowers, Rather Than Embalms
- ◆ Communicates and Listens
- ◆ Balances Chaos and Rigidity
- ◆ Affirms and Supports One Another
- ◆ Uses Mentoring
- ◆ Values and Practices Service to Others
- ◆ Takes Time for Training

Synergy is created when all these elements are present and work together. We can see the vibrancy or synergy in the way the group approaches tasks, activities and through the quality of the accomplishments.

Vibrant 4-H Clubs believe in what they do, celebrate the successes of all members, and express a sense of hope and courage for all youth. The atmosphere within a club reflects on the leadership style and approach of key adults. Vibrant 4-H Clubs:

- ◇ Flow with energy, vigor and activity.
- ◇ Help youth accept responsibility and thrive, not just survive.
- ◇ Nurture self-confidence and help youth reach their full potential.
- ◇ Communicate what they're doing and why they're doing it.
- ◇ Focus on the positive development of young people.



Resource courtesy of Kirk Astroth, Arizona State 4-H Leader. Used at the Western 4-H Institute, Las Vegas, NV, February 2006.

Future Dates to Remember

November

11	Veteran Day's—office closed
19-20	KYLF and KVLF
24-25	Office closed for Thanksgiving
28	Community Leader & 4-H Council

December

5	4-H Ambassador/Exchange Mtg
26– Jan 2	Office closed for Christmas/New Year's

January 2023

11	Ford County 4-H Foundation Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
16	Office closed for Martin Luther King Day
23	Community Leader and 4-H Council Meeting



::4-H Shout Outs::

- ◆ To everyone who participated in National 4-H Week Activities!
- ◆ To all members who submitted their Record Books!
- ◆ Club members who donated their time to decorate Window Displays! They looked GREAT!
- ◆ To all Clubs who conducted a 48 Hours of 4-H activity/event.
- ◆ 2022/2023 Ambassador/Exchange Officers: Aubrey Gerdes—President; Erika Fry — Vice President; Morgan Mink— Secretary; Braeden Simon— Treasurer.
- ◆ To the Exchange members for a successful Flea Market!

Horse Project Meetings

There will be no future Horse Project meeting until the spring. If you have questions , please call the Extension Office.

Barn Quilt Workshop

The Extension Office is offering a **Barn Quilt Workshop on December 10**, starting at 9 a.m. This is open to anyone (youth or adult). If you are interested in more information and pricing, call the Extension Office. Registrations are required by December 1 along with payment and pattern selection.

Did You Know....

...Ford County 4-H program has 4-H'ers representing seven local, different school systems and several home schooling families?

We have members who attend: Dodge City Public Schools, Spearville Public Schools, Bucklin Public Schools, Minneola Public Schools, Cimarron Public Schools, Hodgeman County Public Schools, and Sacred Heart Catholic School in Dodge City. We also have members who attend the Dodge City Community College and several other 2 or 4 year higher education schools.

Invite All Friends

INVITE A FRIEND TO 4-H!

Since this is the beginning of the new 4-H year, we challenge each of you to invite a friend to your next 4-H meeting! The best way to grow your club and the Ford County 4-H Program is to share your passion for 4-H with your friends! Help us increase Ford County and your 4-H Club's enrollment!

Kansas 4-H Club Information

We have some new club leaders this year and we thought we would include some basic information concerning club leadership.

Club Leaders ensure that the 4-H club has the necessary leadership to provide positive learning experiences for youth.

Club Leader RESPONSIBILITIES:

- ◆ All individuals who work directly with youth are required to complete the Kansas 4-H volunteer screening process.
- ◆ Organize the 4-H club.
- ◆ Help members in selecting projects and online enrollment.
- ◆ With the 4-H officer team, help develop club goals and plan the program for the year. Have the completed program books printed and distributed.
- ◆ Work with the 4-H officer team in developing the monthly club meeting agenda.
- ◆ Attend all meetings and communicate dates and times of 4-H activities from the local K-State Research and Extension Office to members and their parents.
- ◆ Work with the club's Parents' Committee to identify the volunteer leadership needed for the club. Encourage all parents to become involved in the club program.
- ◆ Make sure all club volunteers complete the online volunteer enrollment and orientation process.
- ◆ Act as a liaison between the club and the local K-State Research and Extension Office. Pick up materials at the local K-State Research and Extension Office before each meeting to share with 4-H members.
- ◆ Complete necessary reports needed by the local K-State Research and Extension Office.
- ◆ Attend leader meetings and/or trainings provided by the local K-State Research and Extension staff.
- ◆ Encourage members to participate in 4-H activities beyond the local club.
- ◆ Work with the New Family Coordinator in welcoming new families to the club.
- ◆ Facilitate ceremonies to celebrate and recognize occasions and accomplishments.
- ◆ Delegate tasks & responsibilities to involve as many volunteers (adult/youth) as you can to complete these tasks.

Rate your Club Meeting by answering with Great, OK or Could Improve to the following questions:

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

This would be great to discuss at your next meeting to find out how club members and leaders rate your club meetings!

RECORD BOOKS

OPTION A: ZBOOKS Online Record Keeping Software

[ZBooks Resource Page](https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html) -<https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/awards-and-recognition/ZBooks.html>

Please note that both options will be evaluated in the same manner, with no advantage being given to either method. Information included in either method will be the same.

OPTION B: Form Fillable PDF's

Please note that both options will be evaluated in the same manner, with no advantage being given to either method. Information included in either method will be the same.

[Permanent Record \(fillable Word\)](#) and [Personal Page forms](#) are available on our website and the state website.

[Project Record Report Forms](#) ***revised January 2022 versions*** are available on our website or the state 4-H website.. Remember there are Junior, Intermediate and Senior Forms for General Projects and also for Animal Projects.

Please let Andrea or Ethel know of problems/issues you experienced using the form fillable record forms and the zbooks online program. If we don't know of your problems we can not report them and hopefully get things changed or fixed.

Record Book Suggestions *from the evaluators*

Congratulations on working towards your goals and completing your record books this year.

Some helpful hints from the evaluators:

- Visiting with the judge at the fair and talking about your projects at the club tour are not considered formal presentations, that is considered project work. Fulfill this requirement by giving a project talk or demonstration at a club meeting or County Club Days.
- Project experiences: What did you LEARN? Consider utilizing some of the things you learned while meeting your project goals for this section.
- Remember the difference between citizenship and leadership. Citizenship is something done for the betterment of the community. Leadership is organizing, delegating and allowing others to have a part. (i.e. serving as a mentor for younger, new members or teaching others how to do something.) Also, be sure it is related to your project area. When in doubt, ASK QUESTIONS, of your club leaders or the Extension Agents! **Keep up the good work!**

FORD CO. 4-H FOUNDATION

The Ford County 4-H Foundation will be conducting their annual membership drive. You will be receiving a letter asking you to become a member and attend their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2023. Support of this organization is through contributions. You may make a contribution by sending a check to:
Ford County 4-H Foundation, 100 Gunsmoke St,
Dodge City, KS 67801

The 4-H Foundation provides financial support to our program by:

- ⇒ providing college and camp scholarships
- ⇒ leadership trainings and officer's training
- ⇒ record book incentives
- ⇒ sponsoring trips
- ⇒ school enrichment programs.

If you have questions about the Foundation, contact any current board member or the Extension Office.

Parents - Ways You Can Support the 4-H Club

- ◇ Attend Meetings! Attend Club/County-Wide Events.
- ◇ Provide food when asked.
- ◇ Provide transportation when asked.
- ◇ Share ideas for programs.
- ◇ Help with recreation or events.
- ◇ Make 4-H one of their priorities this year.
- ◇ Promote 4-H among their friends & acquaintances.
- ◇ Read the 4-H newsletter and other correspondence.
- ◇ Offer support, with project work.
- ◇ Care about other 4-H members.
- ◇ Be a friend to another 4-H parent.
- ◇ Be a good example for the members.
- ◇ Offer encouragement to the leaders.
- ◇ Be a good listener.
- ◇ Help the members make decisions.
- ◇ Share skills/knowledge by volunteering to be a project leader.
- ◇ Offer to assist the leader with some small task.
- 7 Help and Cooperate.

Ford County Extension Office
100 Gunsmoke St.
Dodge City, KS 67801

Dear 4-H Families,

Please complete your online enrollment soon. Be sure when you select your projects to click on your community club name before continuing. Remember adult volunteers need to also sign up online to either become a new leader or renew.



The best of luck to our 4-H Club officers and community leaders as they begin the new 4-H year.

The holiday season is upon us, so please take care when traveling this season. We hope all of our 4-H families will have a wonderful, safe and Happy Thanksgiving!!

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Ethel Schneweis.

Ethel Schneweis
County Extension Agent

Handwritten signature of Andrea Burns.

Andrea Burns
County Extension Agent



K-STATE
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