



4-H News and Notes



January/February 2024

A NOTE FROM THE EDUCATOR

Happy New Year! I hope you are off to a great start to 2024. We are certainly ready to see our 4-H families and continue making a difference with our members! We understand the hard work you are doing and the challenges you experience as advisors. I hope our Advisor Updates, Officer Trainings and this newsletter will assist you in your endeavors. Please contact us on additional thoughts or suggestions on challenges you may be facing.

Pickaway 4-H Week begins January 21! We hope all of you will join us in the daily activities we have planned. Please do what you can to promote the week and encourage your 4-H families to participate. Be sure to have everyone share their pictures through email or Facebook!

I encourage you to do three things with your club this month. 1. Share this newsletter with your club members (we will share our newsletters electronically to all members after enrollments are in), 2. "like" the Pickaway County, Ohio 4-H Youth Development Facebook page, and 3. Encourage your members to like our Facebook page and visit our website at <http://pickaway.osu.edu>.

Joy E. Sharp

Joy E. Sharp, Extension Educator 4-H Youth Development

UPCOMING DATES

January

- 9 Horse Advisor Meeting
- 15 New Volunteer Apps Due
- 15 Cross County Line Forms Due
- 15 State Fair Steer Registrations Received
- 15 Office Closed for Holiday**
- 16 Due: Achievement Award, Camp Counselor and Scholarship Forms
- 18 Advisor Update 1**
- 21-27 Pickaway 4-H Week**
 - **Move-It Monday**
 - **4-H T-Shirt Tuesday**
 - **Welcome Wednesday**
 - **Throwback Thursday**
 - **Friends Friday**
- 24 Advisor Update 2**
- 27 Ohio Horse Advisor Training
- 29 Advisor Update 3 (final option)**
- 30 MXC Counselor Registration Due

February

- 1 Extension Office open until 6:00pm**
- 1 4-H Enrollments, Constitutions, By-Laws, & Programs Due for Honor Club**
- 1 4-H Officer Training**
- 5 4-H Advisory Committee
- 9 Ohio 4-H Conference Registrations Due
- 11 Jr. Fair Board meeting
- 15 Extension Office open until 6:00pm**
- 15 4-H Enrollments Final Due Date**
- 15 Jr Achievement Award Applications Due**
- 15 State 4-H and Collegiate Scholarship On-Line Apps Due
- 21 New Camp Counselor Selection**
- 24-25 State MXC Counselor Training

March

- 1 Deadline for project changes!**





COUNTY INFORMATION

PICKAWAY COUNTY 4-H WEEK

It's almost here! Pickaway County 4-H week will take place on **January 21-27**. We appreciate all the fabulous events clubs hold to promote 4-H. Many clubs do a wonderful job with window decorating, school bulletin boards, posters and more. This is a great way to get those final new 4-H members signed up to join.

Please check out the enclosed flier for information on this year's Pickaway County 4-H Week which includes a theme each day. We will post trivia questions with prizes on our Facebook page daily. Please help us by posting and sharing 4-H items that week.

4-H ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPS

Thank you for voting for your fellow advisors who will serve on the 4-H Advisory Committee in 2024. New term committee members include:

Adult Reps:

Tara Cahill	Erin Clark
Roxanne Davis	Christina Melton
Bonnie Moran	Dolores Shaeffer

Youth Reps:

Avery Hines	Tyler Cook
-------------	------------

Our new members will join Heather Burke, Julie Foster, Mary Hines, Shena Justus, Jessica Mullins, and Kim McFarland, At-Large members Susie Hollar Larry Davis, and Randy Smith, and Ex Officio members Jenn Merritt and Bob Parker.

If you are interested in serving as an At-Large member of the Pickaway 4-H Committee or have a teen member in your club interested in serving, please contact Joy. We have a couple openings.

OSU Extension - Pickaway County

110 Island Road, Suite B

Circleville, Ohio 43113

Phone: 740-474-7534 FAX: 740-474-7967

pickaway.osu.edu

EXTENSION OFFICE HOURS

Our office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00am - 4:30pm. To better assist our volunteers with club enrollment deadlines, we will be open until 6:00pm on **February 1 and February 15**.

2024 4-H CLUB PACKETS, BOOKS & MORE

Please remember to return your Club Charters, Constitutions, and By-Laws in your green club folders. Everything else in the folder is yours to keep and utilize with your club. Remember all dues must be paid by check (club or bank check) or money order made out to Pickaway County 4-H. When you come into the office to pay for your members, we will also run a current member list for you. Your payment amount will need to match the number of members on your list that day.

4-H ONLINE DATABASE

4-H enrollments have begun, but we still have a ways to go! Once enrolled, advisors will be able to see their club members who have enrolled. You received information in your club packet about enrolling through 4H Online, and we have an entire page on our website devoted to utilizing the database. Be sure to refer your members to it or have members contact Jamie or Jennifer for assistance!

FAMILY GUIDES

Each returning 4-H family should have received a Family Guide in the mail. We also have a limited number of Family Guides in our office for brand new families, and there is an online version available to everyone.

Want to take a look at current or new project books? Members can preview project books AND share feedback about their past project experiences on Ohio 4-H Project Central. Check out the website now at www.ohio4h.org/projectcentral.



PROJECT CENTRAL



FEBRUARY HONOR CLUB POINTS

February 1 is the date for maximum Honor Club points for enrollments, Club Programs, and Club Constitution & By-laws (which should be signed by your 4-H club members annually). Additional information can be found in your green club folder. Please note that while the Ohio 4-H Constitution mandates clubs must offer a minimum of 6 meetings, Pickaway 4-H has NOT changed their policy that members must ATTEND a minimum of 6 meetings.

PROJECT BOOK ORDERING

As you select and purchase 4-H project books for 2024, keep in mind that 4-H project books are taxable items. If project books are purchased by individual members, sales tax must be added. Any project books purchased with club monies and/or by club check will not have added tax. We ask all clubs to take advantage of the Club Book Order Form and purchase your club project books as a group utilizing a club check. Please do not actually complete your check until your order is complete. We will only charge you for the items we have in stock, not those that may be on order. Currently, we have most continuing projects books in stock. We expect books for new projects by early February.

Submit your Club Book Order Form at least one day prior to pick-up.

STATE ADVISOR HANDBOOK

Looking for a website with permission and health forms, rules of using the 4-H clover, working with officers, parents and more? Check out the Volunteer Handbook at <https://ohio4h.org/volunteerhandbook>. This book has been updated recently and contains tons of great information, forms and examples to assist you with your club needs.

4-H RESOURCES

Clubs can find 4-H t-shirts and resources such as flags, banners, pencils and supplies on the 4-H Mall website: <https://shop4-h.org/> Be sure to check out all of the options there.

CLUB ADVISOR UPDATE & TRAININGS

I look forward to seeing all advisors for our Club Advisor Updates on **January 18 at 7:00pm at HH, January 24 at 10:00am at the Extension Office, or January 29 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office.** The Update is 2 hours long with programs identical on each date. All advisors must attend a county 4-H training annually.

Trainings will include county and state updates followed by Recognizing Child Abuse & Neglect Training. Our lesson for the evening will be working with the financial aspect of 4-H clubs.

4-H OFFICER TRAINING

Please encourage your 4-H club officers to attend this year's 4-H Officer Training. It will take place on **February 1 at 7:00 pm** at Emmett Chapel with sessions for President and Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, News Reporter, Historian, Community Service, Health & Safety, Environmental/Energy and Recreation. The evening will begin with break-outs for each office before coming together for a group training. The evening will conclude with an induction ceremony where attendees will receive, officer pins (for the constitutional offices) and certificates for all other offices. A flier is attached.

ADVISOR GRAB & GO MEETING TOOLKIT

Start your 4-H year with seven ready-to-go club meeting agendas detailing a family kick-off, team building, officer elections, public speaking and more. All resources can be found at go.osu.edu/clubmeetingtoolkit

CLOVERBUD CONNECTIONS

4-H Cloverbud Connections is a website dedicated to programming and opportunities for Cloverbud members. It includes Click it, Print it, Do it activities, ideas for working with Cloverbuds and more. The site is searchable by key words and topic to help readers find content. New posts are added monthly and provide a unique blend of education, activities, and fun to build and challenge 4-H Cloverbud Volunteers teaching kindergarten through second grade youth. Follow this link to visit and enroll - <https://u.osu.edu/cloverbudconnections/>

4-H AWARDS & OPPORTUNITIES

All 4-H members ages 14-18 received information in November on applying for 4-H awards and opportunities including camp counselor, county scholarships, county sponsored trips, and state awards. Applications for all except Ohio 4-H Scholarships were due by **January 16** with Ohio 4-H Scholarship Applications due online by **February 15**.

Ohio 4-H Scholarship Applications

Ohio 4-H offers college scholarships to active 4-H members. All 4-H members planning on attending an accredited college are eligible to apply. Deadline is **February 15**. Instructions on applying can be found on-line at <https://pickaway.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/teen-opportunities>.

4-H Camp Counselor Application

It takes lots of counselors to take as many members as possible to camp. Camp Counselors applications are due January 16. Counselors must reapply each year. New counselor applicants MUST attend New Counselor Selection night on **February 21**.

Camp Counselors requirements include: Open to all 4-H members who are at least high school freshman and ages 14-18. Pickaway County 4-H Camp will be held at Tar Hollow on July 11-14. Counselor Training will take place monthly starting in March. Required Counselor Training Camps at Tar Hollow will take place on June 10 and July 10. Complete the Pickaway County Counselor application form and request two adult recommendations to be eligible for this opportunity.

Achievement Award Forms

Complete this form for trips, state project awards, and the Pickaway 4-H Heart and Service Awards.

TAR HOLLOW CAMP POSITIONS

Looking for a summer job that includes 4-H fun, memories, and a great team? Please consider working at Tar Hollow 4-H Camp. Applications are now being accepted for the following positions: Canteen, Crafts, Recreation, Naturalist, Lifeguards and Kitchen staff. Applications are available at <https://u.osu.edu/tarhollow> and are due by **March 1**. Note these are five-week positions. Please share this opportunity with your 4-H alumni!

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD APPLICATION

All 4-H members ages 9-13 will receive an email next week on applying for Junior Achievement Awards. This opportunity is for 4-H members younger than 14 who have taken a 4-H project for at least one year. The Pickaway County Junior Achievement Award is our way to reward you for your hard work from 2023. It is also a great way to track your 4-H involvement, so you are ready to fill out the Ohio Achievement Award form when you are 14 years old. Here are the award categories:



- ❖ *White Clover Award*: Members who have completed 4-H projects for 1-2 years.
- ❖ *Green Clover Award*: Members who have completed 4-H projects for 3-4 years.
- ❖ *Gold Clover Award*: Members who have completed 4-H projects for 5-6 years.

To apply for Junior Achievement awards, you will need to download and type into the form. *Youth must meet the point categories each year. Every applicant who meets the point requirements will receive the award which consists of a certificate and a gift card. Winners are recognized on-stage during the Pickaway County Fair. These applications are due in printed version by **February 15**.

4-H AND JUNIOR FAIR SPONSORSHIPS

It's time for recruitment of junior fair and 4-H sponsors. Past sponsors should receive a letter soon from Awards Coordinator, Dolores Shaeffer to renew their sponsorship. If your club, a family, individual, or a business you know would like to become a sponsor, contact Dolores at dolores.shaeffer@yahoo.com. Sponsorship options can be to give a set dollar amount and the money will be used where it is needed, or to sponsor a specific award or award area and pay the amount for that award. Many awards have an annual sponsor, so contact Dolores for availability if you have a specific area you want to sponsor. Award trips, annual banquet, public speaking program and Style Review are sponsored through a dollar amount. All sponsorship checks should be made payable to the "Pickaway County 4-H Committee".



STATE INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES

MAKING EXTREME COUNSELORS (MXC)

Youth age 14 to 18 who have served as a 4-H camp counselor are invited to Making eXtreme Counselors (MXC)--an interactive and quick-paced training that offers camp ideas to new and veteran camp counselors. MXC participants will leave with skills that will enable them to assist in their county's camp program and prepare them for a great camp program.

The event will take place at the Ohio 4-H Center on **February 24-25**. Registration is due to Pickaway County office by **January 30**. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

OHIO 4-H CONFERENCE

The Ohio 4-H Conference will take place on Saturday, **March 9** at the Columbus Convention Center. Registration is due no later than the morning of Friday, **February 9**. Class choices fill up quickly, so turn in your registration well in advance of the deadline!

The conference is designed for both teens and adults. It offers 4-H teens, ages 14-18 opportunities to explore leadership, conduct community service, meet teens from across the state and have fun. It offers 4-H Volunteers from across Ohio the chance to learn together and from each other. Nearly 150 sessions are offered as well as separate luncheons for the volunteers and the teens.

Registration includes your lunch. The registration form and session booklet is available at <http://www.ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference> and at the Extension Office. Complete the registration form and return it to the Extension Office.

****Pickaway County advisors receive free registration** through the 4-H committee. In addition, 4-H teens who register for the conference will be refunded their registration fee after they attend.

SPIN CLUBS

A new item we are seeing a lot of, are 4-H SPIN clubs. SPIN stands for Special Interest Club and is typically an opportunity open statewide. SPIN clubs are not a stand-alone county 4-H membership. You should think of SPIN clubs as a great way for members to learn more about a particular project or topic area from someone who specializes in that topic. Their length of time is typically six virtual meetings or workshops. As we are made aware of SPIN club opportunities taking place, we will share them on our 4-H Facebook page.

OHIO BEEF EXPO & JUDGING CONTEST

The 2024 Ohio Beef Expo will take place on **March 14-17**. A judging contest and a Quality Assurance training will take place on Friday, **March 15**. More details can be found at: <https://www.ohiobeefexpo.com/schedule-events>.

OHIO STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK INFO

Ohio State Fair has its own rules for each specie area. The only place to find those is on the State Fair website. Here are a few general tips to know if you are interested in exhibiting a market animal at state fair:

- Ownership rules for animals exhibited at OSF:
 - Market beef – January 1
 - Market swine – May 26
 - Market lambs – May 26
 - Market goats – May 1
 - Market rabbits – June 1
 - Market poultry – within 5 days of hatch
 - Breeding animals – June 1
- All livestock entries for OSF must be made on-line by **June 20**.
- All horse entries will be made by the exhibitor this year and must be made on-line by noon on **July 1**. They include a 2024 negative Coggins test by the registration deadline.

Finally, a reminder about Junior Fair livestock. In order to exhibit a junior show animal at the state fair, a member must first take and complete that project at the county level. The animal itself does not have to be exhibited at the county fair but all other project requirements must be met.

PICKAWAY JUNIOR FAIR INFORMATION

QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING

Quality Assurance training is required annually for all Junior Fair exhibitors with market animals or lactating animals including dairy cows and dairy goats. No other breeding animal or dairy beef feeder exhibitors need to complete this training. Pickaway County will utilize both in-person QA and on-line YQCA training for all members.

On-Line Training: To complete the training and quiz go to: <https://yqcaprogram.org/>. Each member must be individually registered and must complete the module and quiz that is for their current age as of January 1, 2024. Cost is \$12 per member. Once you have completed the certification, download, save and email your completion certificate to sharp.5@osu.edu.

In-Person Training: Will take place on **March 20** for the first 100 members registered. Training will be held on **April 10** for first-time exhibitors under age 11. A registration link will be sent to all in early March. No registration will take place until the link is sent. FFA will also offer in-person training. Note: Not only is county in-person training free, but you do not have to submit a certificate at its completion!

As an alternative, some livestock shows and clinics also offer QA. Check with Joy to be sure if it meets the requirements of an approved QA program. ALL QA must be completed by **May 1** for members to show at county or state fair. ODA rules do not allow for an extension of the May 1 date.

ASSISTANCE WITH QUESTIONS

Should you have a question or need a clarification on a rule, tagging or project, I encourage you to contact the appropriate person. Here are a few numbers/emails to assist you:

Joy Sharp – 4-H and Quality Assurance questions
sharp.5@osu.edu or 740-474-7534

Von Cremeans – Senior Fair Board questions
president@pickawaycountyfair.org

Jeff Wippel – Livestock/Sale questions
oink.berks@gmail.com

FAIR BOOTHS

Fair Booths will be located inside Heritage Hall. Booths must be free-standing, 8 feet wide and 4 feet deep with a height of 6-8 feet. Booths must be set up by Saturday, **June 15** at 9:00pm and remain set up in their entirety until **June 23**. Each club must have a booth and all non-livestock projects must have an exhibit in it that represents their project. Please plan a 4-H club booth that shows off your 4-H members' hard work!

FAIR UPDATES

There are a lot of good discussions within our Senior Fair Board and Livestock/Sale Committee. As changes happen, 4-H will strive to share updates. I encourage all advisors and 4-H families to "Like" our Pickaway County 4-H Facebook page and the Pickaway Fairgrounds Facebook page! Check these places often and share the information with your 4-H members! Here are a few updates to note:

- QA training must be completed by **May 1** (see previous column)
- Both 4-H and FFA exhibitors must attend Skillathon Judging on **June 7 or 11 (Tuesday)**.
- **NEW:** ODA ownership rules do not allow another member to show your animal except when shows overlap or you have multiple animals in the ring.
- Pickaway will host a PAS show for its horse exhibitors on **June 22**. Exhibitors may attend any additional PAS show of their choice as long as it does not fall during fair. Proper paperwork is required for Out-of-County PAS shows.
- There is an updated show schedule with poultry breeding and showmanship show on Tuesday.
- Breeding hog show remains on Saturday. Gilts will show off trailer with limited barn space available. Hogs used for breeding gilts may not also be tagged for a market project.
- New Purebred Barrow show will take place Saturday. Members must enroll in a market hog project. Hogs used for Purebred Barrow may not also show in Monday/Tuesday Market show.
- Pullorum testing or NPIP certification is required for all chickens and turkeys.
- Goats: Junior Meat Breeding Does will show by weight instead of age.
- Dairy Cows & Heifers will have their own show.
- All equine exhibitors must complete the online EquiSTEP program annually by May 1.

Pickaway County Officer Training



**Thursday, February 1, 2024
7:00 – 8:30 pm**

Emmett Chapel – 318 Tarlton Rd, Circleville

Break-out Sessions will be held for each of the following offices:

- ❖ President & Vice President
 - ❖ Secretary
 - ❖ Treasurers
 - ❖ News Reporters
- ❖ Health & Safety Officers
 - ❖ Historians
- ❖ Community Service
- ❖ Recreation Officers
- ❖ Environmental/Energy



Come learn about your officer role and responsibilities as a leader in your club. Receive information and resources to help you complete your duties.

Parents and Advisors are invited to attend with their 4-H members. An Officer Induction Ceremony will take place at the end of the evening with officer pins (for the constitutional offices) and certificates sent to those that participate for the whole evening.

Club Advisor Update

* Meets State-Required Annual Advisor Training Requirements.
All Advisors Must Attend One. *



Choose One:

- **Thursday, January 18 – 7-9pm at HH**
- **Wednesday, January 24 – 10am-12pm at Extension Office**
- **Monday, January 29 – 6-8pm at Extension Office**

Our annual 4-H Club Advisor Update will focus on county and state updates, Recognizing Child Abuse training, club financial requirements, and Junior Fair Updates. Senior Fair Board President Von Cremeans will be present on January 18 to assist with the Jr. Fair Update. All advisors must attend one training annually.

To help us plan, please RSVP for the date you will be attending. If you need to change your reservation date, please contact the Extension Office.

In the event of a Level 2 weather emergency, contact the office to determine if your training has been cancelled/rescheduled. We will cancel for a Level 3.

PICKAWAY COUNTY 4-H WEEK

January 21 – 27, 2024



Pickaway 4-H Week Themes

Move it Monday – The 4th H is Health! Participate in a health activity, some recreation or a 4-H line dance.

4-H T-Shirt Tuesday – Wear a 4-H shirt to school or work.

Welcome Wednesday – Decorate a business window, put up posters or signs to welcome new members to 4-H. Share pictures of your work.

Throwback Thursday – Post pictures of a past 4-H or junior fair event.

Friends Friday – Encourage a friend to join 4-H.

Watch our Pickaway County 4-H Youth Development Facebook page each day for a trivia question. Post your answer by midnight. Correct answers each day will be put into a drawing for a 4-H prize.

Pickaway 4-H week is an opportunity for us to recognize the history of 4-H in Pickaway County, sing the praises of our current members, and encourage new members to enroll. Please have your club, parents and alumni join us in celebrating our 4-H program!

