

Ohio 4-H News and Notes

May 12, 2013

Hi,

Back when I was writing my weekly “4-H & You” news column for the local newspaper, I once described my perspective of the paper clip. As I recall, the thrust of the piece was that I could not understand how paper clip manufacturing companies stayed in business, because very seldom do people throw those things away.

Even in today’s digital world, I would guess that everyone reading this has a cache of paperclips, probably at their fingertips. Paper clips come in a variety of sizes, shapes and right now in my desk lap drawer there are even two hot pink paper clips. Before the era of recycling, paper clips were used time and time again – maybe the first example of office recycling. The only times that we discard paper clips are when they are badly bent out of shape, or they have become rusty. These conditions occur only when they were used for purposes for which they were not intended, challenged to hold more together than for which they were designed, placed in aversive environments, or otherwise neglected. I would guess there is not one among us who has not straightened a slightly bent paper clip to be used again.

Paper clips are versatile. They allow the flexibility of holding things together without the permanency of a staple. We can shuffle the papers, and clip them together again and again based on our continually changing needs for categorization. They are of simple design, sturdy for their size, dependable and cost effective.

Many people within organizations resemble paper clips. They hold together factions, which may or may not be logically compatible. Those people get straight to the efforts with no frills, produce significant impact, are dependable and probably do not get paid commensurate with the time and resources invested and product they produce. When placed in situations which do not take advantage of their strengths, or aversive environments such as bureaucracy, unnecessary conflict, limited financial resources and the like, then we may lose them. That is too bad, because if were not for those people, not nearly so much would be accomplished.

We need paper clips.

Thanks,

Tom

Send a 4-H E-Card



Send your Mom a Mother's day e-card and/or tell your 4-H Mom what she means to you!

See National 4-H Council's website at:

http://n4h.convio.net/site/Ecard?ecard_id=1201&s_oo=elxUWj4r1uQ_3rFcSsnnHA&s_tlid=4245

4-H Lawn Care

The 4-H Lawn Care "Prepare for the Fair" program will be held at the Delaware County Fairgrounds Jr. Fair Building on Saturday, May 18th from 9:30 – 1:00. Each participant should allow about 2.5 hours to go through the 10 stations, but they can come early and be done early or come at 10:30 and finish up at 1:00. Stations will include: Ohio lawn grasses, weeds, insects, basic lawn maintenance (watering, mowing, thatching), fertilizers, seeding a lawn/reading a grass seed label, and project ideas. Each station will be about 15 minutes.

Contact Cindy Kaelbar, OSUE Delaware County Master Gardener Coordinator, at 740-833-2030 for more information.

2013 Ohio DairyPalooza a Resounding Success

Founded in 2011 as a way to bring more 4-H youth to participate in dairy events, DairyPalooza has quickly grown to be the premier event in the state of Ohio when it comes to 4-H dairy programs.

With a turnout of over 300 youth and adults, the 2013 DairyPalooza was the best year yet. The May 4 event boasted a state-certified dairy quality assurance program, new for 2013, which fulfilled the state 4-H program requirements for quality assurance and those of many Ohio counties as well.

Separate sessions for Cloverbuds were held all day, to allow parents and advisors the chance to attend educational sessions with their older youth. Sessions on nutrition, reproductive physiology, sire selection and mating, pedigrees, selecting dairy projects, fitting, and cheese science were among the many offered throughout the all-day program.

A pizza lunch, cake, and ice cream were also highlights of the event, as well as a career expo featuring area businesses, job opportunities, and scholarships for adults and older youth to peruse. The day concluded with door prizes, among which were gift cards, t-shirts, and a custom made wooden showbox. All preregistered youth also received event t-shirts, goodie bags, and resource packets.

The date for the 2014 DairyPalooza is yet to be set, but details about this years' event as well as registration information, forms, and resources are available at the event website, www.ohiodairypalooza.com.

All Japanese Youth Placed for 2013!

Many thanks to Ohio's 4-H County 4-H professionals for your assistance in helping us identify 92 wonderful families to host through the Ohio 4-H International Program this summer! Due to your efforts, we were able to reach a broader-section of the state than we have in the past, with some counties hosting for the very first time! AND, we were able to place 7 additional youth and adults over and above our original commitment! We are mailing packets to Host Families today and tomorrow advising them of their selection.

Please see the attached map for the families in your county. In June, you'll receive copies of the host family and international youth applications for everyone in your county. We will enter them into the Access 4-H database for you.

FYI, we were NOT able to accept 5 host family applicants due to either issues with their home visit, reference checks, background checks or the age of their children. You'll receive copies of correspondence sent to each of these families advising them of non-acceptance.

If you advertised the international opportunity recently and receive any responses, please do let me know as we'd like to get those families involved next year. Thank you again so very much for your assistance in spreading the word about this great Ohio 4-H opportunity!