

Ohio 4-H News and Notes

February 3, 2013

Hi,

Without any thinking or contemplation, quickly, answer the following questions: (1) What is your first memory of 4-H? (2) When you think about 4-H Camp, what immediately comes to mind? (3) When did you first realize that being a 4-H Professional was much different than you originally perceived?

On my commute to Columbus, sometimes my mind wanders. Last week these “memories” came to mind. My first recollection of 4-H was when Lloyd Lutz, the County Agricultural Agent came to visit my older sister’s 4-H beef heifer project. We were “in between” 4-H Agents at the time, and Lloyd loved to be involved with 4-H, so he assumed the responsibility of visiting our club. Each July, 2-3 weeks prior to the county fair, the Green Township Blue Ribbon 4-H Club members would gather early in the morning, and then in four or five cars, tour every project at every member’s home. That particular morning, through Lloyd’s questioning and informal teaching, I first realized that we fed our cattle more than just “ground feed”. In that feed was ground up ears of corn and some cottonseed meal for protein.

*I never went to 4-H camp as a member, so my first 4-H camping experience was when I was a 4-H Agent. We had a two-night “Girls Beginners 4-H Camp” at 4-H Camp Indian Hills. It was a multi-county camp, so other staff there included the 4-H Agent from Miami County, Jeff Layman, and the Darke County Home Economics Agent, Margaret Jeffers. My first recollection of 4-H camp is breakfast in the lodge, with 120 8-10 year old girls, plus *counselors* – most of whom selected cereal and milk as their breakfast food of choice – so for a bit, there was quiet and the clinking of spoons against bowls.*

Many of us have a different perception of what a 4-H Professional actually does before we become 4-H Professionals. I remember during my interview with the county committee for the Shelby County 4-H Agent position, I was asked my reasons for applying. I pontificated on how I wanted to give back to the agriculture of Shelby County, because it had given to me. One of the members of the committee politely informed me that there were actually about twice the number of non-agricultural 4-H projects in the county as agricultural projects – I had not known that.

Maybe these have been somewhat random thoughts, but I do think they highlight some important aspects of our work. First, we are blessed to participate in an informal, experiential educational venture that allows for “hands-on” work with friends and family. Second 4-H provides opportunities in social development beyond home and family. Finally, even though we have traditional roots, there has always been, and always will be, something in 4-H for everyone, both youth and adult.

Happy 4-H memories,

Tom

4-H Farm Management Project/ Club Opportunity

Howard Doster, retired Purdue Farm Management Specialist, who now lives in Ohio, has a plan and resources for the development of a pilot effort to teach farm management skills to older farm youth and their families. He is trying to identify an experienced Extension Educator who can help to identify 15-20 farm families which could be recruited to participate in this pilot effort. If at all possible, given that someone can be identified soon enough, Howard would like to initiate this effort in March of this year. If anyone is interested, or knows of someone else who might be interested, by February 15, please contact Howard Doster, email: bhdoster@earthlink.net ; phone: 765-412-1495; web site: <http://dhdoster.com/>

Junior Master Gardener Resources

If you have club leaders expressing interest in the Junior Master Gardener program, please be sure to let them know that purchasing a leader guide and [registering](#) the club gives their members access to these benefits:

Eligibility for certification and other recognition

A free monthly newsletter

Access to awards and contests

Access to a monthly garden give-away

Information about registration comes with each purchase. Curriculum purchases are made directly through the Junior Master Gardener Program at www.jmgkids.us or 1-888-900-2577. Questions? Please contact Amanda Forquer, forquer.13@cfaes.osu.edu, 614-292-6942 or Jane Wright, wright.646@cfaes.osu.edu, 614-292-0909. Thank you!rgia to represent Ohio at the National 4-H Congress. Please join us in celebration of their accomplishments!

Reminder: Let Your 4-H Members and Club Leaders Know About MyPlate!

MyPlate, the revised food guidance system introduced by USDA in 2011, contains important information for youth enrolled in Ohio 4-H food and nutrition projects. Depending on a project book's publication date, it may refer instead to the older MyPyramid or Food Guide Pyramid, but 4-H members should still know the MyPlate recommendations. (They are being incorporated into state fair events.) A flyer intended to be distributed with every food and nutrition project is available for no charge from eStore: <http://estore.osu->

extension.org/productdetails.cfm?PC=2742 and also as a download from the Ohio 4-H **Projects and Publications** web page. Contact Amanda Forquer, forquer.13@cfaes.osu.edu 614-292-6942 or Jane Wright, wright.646@cfaes.osu.edu, 614-292-0909 with questions. Thank you!

Corrections to Project Completion and Fair Requirements!

A handful of minor corrections have been made to the Project Completion and Fair Requirements document that is available on the Staff Resources page (look under Program Management). Three discontinued projects are now deleted (372 Multi-Level Teen Leadership, 373 Teen Leadership on the Job, and 423 Sportswear for Spectators) and the description of Project Citizen at the state fair no longer specifies a “group” presentation (individual entries are also welcome). Thanks to an eagle-eyed 4-H professional for the feedback! Contact Allen Auck, auck.1@osu.edu, 614-247-8148) or Jane Wright wright.646@cfaes.osu.edu, 614-292-0909 with questions.

2013 Counselor College

Canter’s Cave 4-H Camp
March 16-17

Counselor College is open to any teen 14 -18 who would like to be a camp counselor. Sessions are based on your years of experience as a camp counselor. Class registration will consist of some require sessions along with some electives that you choose! Sponsored by the Ohio Valley EERA and Canter’s Cave Camp Board. Come ready to participate, learn and have fun! [CLICK HERE FOR FLYER.](#)

4-H Promotion Time – Southwest Ohio

Cheri Brinkman, Warren County 4-H Key Advisor, college educator and author, appeared on FOX 19 January 29, 2013 to promote 4-H registration. She did this during her CINCINNATI AND SOUP cooking segment when she shared a "blue ribbon" recipe from former 4-Her Allison Brinkman who competed in the Warren County Fairs in the Food and Nutrition areas. The recipe is published in CINCINNATI AND SOUP: RECIPES FROM THE QUEEN CITY AND GREAT SOUP cookbook and is available free online currently at

FOX 19: Morning News. Sheila Gray, the host of the FOX 19 Morning News, was a former 4-Her and shared her positive memories along with the soup demonstration: The video recording can be viewed at:

http://www.fox19.com/global/video/popup/pop_playerLaunch.asp?vt1=v&clipFormat=flv&clipId1=8270606&at1=News&h1=Blue
