



## 4-H CLOVER CONNECTION

<http://oces.okstate.edu/garfield>  
<http://extension.okstate.edu/county/west-district/>  
[www.oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/](http://www.oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/)  
[www.facebook.com/4H.garfieldcounty](http://www.facebook.com/4H.garfieldcounty)

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September 2023

### TIPS AND TRICKS TO GROWING YOUR CLUB

Things that are worthwhile don't just happen – they take time and effort. Positive relationships, running a successful business, good health, etc. It's no different when growing a 4-H club.

Growing a club requires intentional recruitment and retention from each volunteer leader, club member and family, said Karla Knoepfli, Oklahoma State University Extension state volunteer specialist in the State 4-H Office.

“The beginning of a new 4-H year is a good time to really think about your recruitment and retention plan. Think of your 4-H families, members and potential members as informed consumers who are comparing this program to others they may be considering,” Knoepfli said. “While you know the positive attributes of the 4-H program, it's important to continually deliver interesting and relevant opportunities to current and potential ‘customers.’”

Today's youth are actively being recruited by other organizations, so it's important in the 4-H program to continually recruit in an effort to attract new

members as well as retain members in the program.

What can families, volunteers and club officers do to achieve this? Here are four tips for maintaining a healthy enrollment in a local club:

Provide a welcoming and engaging environment. Make members feel valued for who they are. Ensure new members and families have an orientation and are paired up with a mentor.

Offer quality programming. Are you offering a range of activities that appeal to everyone? Providing programming in fun and unique ways helps keep youth engaged. Leaders should be truly prepared to be mindful, intentional and flexible to continually meet the needs of the consumer, aka: club members.

Nurture relationships. Provide programming in a safe social/emotional environment for both club members and volunteers. A good volunteer/club member ratio is important to nurture and provide growth opportunities that meet the

needs of everyone involved. Focus less on the outcomes (ie: winning) and instead provide positive reinforcement for improvement, progress and mastery. Keep youth engaged. Club members develop life skills when given the opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process. Youth leadership can help guide the group to new opportunities, discover new ways of accomplishing the 4-H mission, deliver programs and more.

Gillard and Will, in the “Journal of Parks and Recreation Administration,” said, “Youth will need to be continually recruited to keep attending, or to be retained in the program.” “A quality, well-balanced club will double as a motivator and influence the decision to return,” Knoepfli said. “Youth and families who experience successes, fulfillment, competence and fun are repeat customers and bring others into the 4-H family.”

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Office Closed	Sept. 4
Garfield Co. Fair	Sept 6-9
Lifeskills Judging	Sept. 6
Recycling Club	Sept. 12
Cooking Club	Sept. 14
OK State Fair	Sept. 14-24
PLO	Sept. 18
Cloverbuds	Sept. 27
Tulsa State Fair	Sept. 28-Oct. 8
Achievement forms due	Oct. 2
County-wide 4-H meeting	Oct. 4
National 4-H Week	Oct. 1-7
Dist. Fall Trap Shoot	Oct. 7
Achievement Reception	Oct. 8
W Action Leadership Conf.	Oct. 11-13
Photography Club	Oct. 12
State Trap	Oct. 21
State Skeet	Oct. 22
State .22 Rifle/.22 Pistol	Oct. 28
State Muzzle loaders	Oct. 29
Horse Science Academy	Nov. 11
Dress Revue/Impressive Dress	April 3



**PLO meeting to be held on September 18 at 5:30**

### 2023-24 COUNTY OFFICERS

- ◆ President— Summer Prince
- ◆ V. President— Bailey Nickels
- ◆ Secretary— Shelbi Prince
- ◆ Reporter—Joe Sharp
- ◆ Recreation Leader—Monte McReynolds
- ◆ Executive— Josiah Benson

## COOKING CLUB

Cooking club will be held in the Extension office September 14, at 4:30. Must sign up by September 7th.



## CLOVERBUDS

All cloverbuds are invited to come join the fun at the Extension office September 27th at 4:30.



## TULSA STATE DATES & DEADLINES

September 1, 2023: Contest Deadline  
 September 1, 2023: Livestock & Horse Show Late Entry Deadline  
 September 8, 2023: Late Contest Entry Deadline  
 September 22, 2023: 4-H & FFA Competitive Exhibits Entry Deadline  
 September 25, 2023: Junior Livestock Show Substitution Deadline

## STANDARD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Standard of Achievement forms are due October 2. This is for work completed October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. It can be found in the green yearly handbook or copies are available at the office.

Awards will be handed out at the Achievement Reception October 8th.



## HORSE SCIENCE ACADEMY

Kris Hiney will conduct a Horse Science Academy on November 11th. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch and supplies. Topics this year include fecal exams and strategic deworming, understanding the equine digestive tract, BCS and weight assessment, equine genetics.

Register at: [https://secure.touchnet.com/C20271\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1918](https://secure.touchnet.com/C20271_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1918)



Be sure and mark your calendars that the date for Dress Revue/ Impressive Dress has been changed to April 3 at 6 p.m. in the Extension office.

## 4-H CLUB INFORMATION

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>MEETING</u>
Enid	Jamie Nickels	osunickels@gmail.com	3rd Wed. @ Extension office @ 4:30
Kremlin	Samm Hoeltzel	sammhoeltzel@yahoo.com	3rd Wed. @ Extension office @ 4:30
Chisholm	Earla Haggard	earlalou@yahoo.com	Sept. 27th after school @ Elem. School
	Cindy Conner	cindy.conner@okstate.edu	
	Taira Simpson	taira_leigh@hotmail.com	
Covington	Sasha McReynolds	sashamcreynolds40@gmail.com	2nd Wed. @ 3:30, school library
Garber	Sasha Prince	sasha_race12@hotmail.com	3rd Wed. after school @ school
Hillsdale	Sara Peck	sarajopeck@yahoo.com	2nd Wed. @ 4, school cafeteria
Drummond	Shelly Messall	shellymessall@pldi.net	email for meeting time and dates
Pioneer/ Pleasant-Vale	Deirdre Postier	deirdrepostier@gmail.com	2nd Sun. @ 2 at Pleasant Vale Elem.
Waukomis	Cynthia Benson	cynthia.bee@live.com	at Waukomis grade school, Email for meeting dates

*Thank you to all the 4-H volunteers that help make 4-H a success!*

## LIVESTOCK, CONSUMER & FCS SKILL-A-THON JUDGING

Livestock, Consumer, and the FCS Skill-a-thon will be set up to judge at the Extension office September 6, from 1 to 6. This is a come and go and a great way to test your knowledge. All are encouraged to participate.

## RECYCLING CLUB

A new club will start meeting September 12th at 4:15pm at the Extension office! Learn to recycle and make recycled crafts. If you have an empty washed out tin can please bring it with you, if not we will have some provided.



Call the Extension office to sign up, limited 15 spaces.

## HORSE SHOW

The Garfield 4-H, FFA and Open Class Horse Show will be September 9th. For more information contact Sheri at 580-237-0238 or Jennifer at 580-541-7587.



More information can be found at [https://www.chisholmtrailexpo.com/uploads/5/8/1/3/58133899/horse\\_show\\_-\\_website.pdf](https://www.chisholmtrailexpo.com/uploads/5/8/1/3/58133899/horse_show_-_website.pdf)

## 4-H VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE September 28—October 1, 2023

Join enthusiastic volunteers and Extension staff from across the nation at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, GA. For more information go to [www.4hvcoss.com](http://www.4hvcoss.com)

There is a virtual option for those who cannot attend in person.





Garfield County OSU Extension Center  
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*Jessica Nickels*

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 Extension Educator 4-H & Youth Development



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"Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact (Jessica Nickels, Extension Educator, 4-H) at (580-237-1228 or [jessica.nickels@okstate.edu](mailto:jessica.nickels@okstate.edu)) at least two weeks prior to the event."

