



4-H Newsletter

MAY 5, 2010

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

May, 2010

Dear 4-H Family,

I am so proud of our Okeechobee County 4-Hers. I am proud of the community service you each have willingly performed, the demonstrations and speeches you have presented and the outstanding way you have exhibited your animals (horses, cows, steers, pigs, rabbits and chickens). Most of all, I am proud of the way you all work together in difficult situations to "make the best better".

Congratulations to all participants at County Events and District Events. You did a great job at County Events and represented Okeechobee well at District Events on May 1.

There are many dates (deadlines) in May. Buyer's plaques **MUST** be purchased before the Annual OYLS Meeting on **Thursday, May 27, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Osceola Middle School gym. You must show your plaques to the Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show Committee and then you will receive the picture to go into your plaque and your check. You are responsible for delivering the plaque to the buyer. Record Books have a deadline of **Monday, May 17 BY 5:00 p.m.** Portfolios should be in the working stage by now. I will be glad to help you anytime. The portfolios will be mailed to Gainesville on Wednesday, May 26. The deadline to apply for Congress is Friday, May 14.

4-H has so much to offer each of you and you all have so much to give back to 4-H and the community. Continue to make your best better.

Sincerely,

Debbie S. Clements
EA III 4-H/FCS
DCS/lmg



*"To make the
best better"*

Okeechobee IFAS
Extension Service

458 Hwy 98 N

Okeechobee, FL

(863) 763-6469

(863) 763-6745

We're on the Web!

okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu



Barnyard Buddies

By: Janet McKenna

The Barnyard Buddies' April meeting was great. K-9 officers, Widgeon and Rex came and gave us a demonstration of their work with their trainers, Officer Vos and Officer Mills. What wonderful things the dogs can do! We received record books and pictures from the OYLS as well as voted on our end of the year party at this meeting.

We will be going to Camp Cloverleaf in Lake Placid for our year end party. This will be a great day of outdoor activities including a nature walk, swimming and canoeing. There will be a lifeguard on duty. Bring your bathing suit and wear outdoor clothes. Don't forget sunscreen and bug repellent. Pizza will be ordered for lunch and members are going to bring drinks and snacks.

Directions to Camp Cloverleaf: Take Hwy 70 west to US Hwy 27. Turn right on US Hwy 27 and go into Lake Placid. Just past the railroad tracks on the left is a gas station and Lake June Road. Turn left on Lake June Road and follow around the curves past public park to Cloverleaf Road. Turn right on Cloverleaf Road and follow to park entrance. If you live north of Okeechobee, you can take Hwy 98 to Hwy 27 and turn left onto Hwy 27, going south, until you reach Lake June Road which will be a right just before the railroad tracks. The address is: 126 Cloverleaf Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852.

Beef-N-Bacon Raisers

The Beef-N-Bacon Raisers 4-H club met on April 13 at the Extension Office. We discussed that record books are due by May 17 no later than 5:00 PM to the Extension Office. The Annual OYLS Meeting will be on May 27 at Osceola Middle School gym at 7:00 PM.

On May 11 at 6:30 PM the club will have a pizza party at Farm Credit. Anyone who didn't turn in shirts and signs will need to turn them in at that time. We will be discussing any questions about the record books at this meeting as well.

Chobee Cattle Kids

By: Jenna Wolff

Hello all Chobee Cattle Kids, we just wanted to make sure you know all record books need to be turned in by May 17 to the Extension Office no later than 5:00 PM. May 27 is the Annual Meeting (check pick up) at Osceola Middle School gym at 7:00 PM. There is an upcoming Prospect show May 14-15 in Bartow. On May 23 we are going to have an end of the year party at Jessica Humphrey's house from 1 - 4 PM. You're welcome to bring anything you like. The County Events projects were very interesting and we want to wish all of the District Events participants good luck in Sebring on Saturday, May 1. I learned a lot and Curtis and I are excited to be participating.

Chobee Roundup

Congratulations to all of the club members for a job well done at the 2010 Okeechobee Youth Livestock Show.

- Garrett Johnson Grand Champion Steer
- Rabon Carrier Grand Champion Bull
- Bailey Kirton Reserve Grand Champion Steer
- Taylor Pearce County Bred
- Gavin Beal 1st Place Junior Showmanship Steer
- Bailey Kirton 2nd Place Intermediate Showmanship Steer
- Josh Goforth 3rd Place Senior Showmanship Steer
- Shelby Kirton 3rd Place Junior Showmanship Swine
- Chance Deen 3rd Place Junior Showmanship Heifers
- Shelby Kirton 1st Place Junior Showmanship Heifers.

Our meeting was April 12, we congratulated all our club members for great behavior during the livestock show. We handed out papers to help with record books. **Record books are required at the next meeting** to be reviewed. They are due to the Extension Office no later than 5:00 PM on May 17. If you have any questions on your record books, write them down so someone can help you at the next meeting.

Remember to order your buyer's plaque. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 27 at 7:00 PM at Osceola Middle School gym. Our next meeting will be on May 10 at 6:30 PM at the Osceola Middle School Ag room. We will complete record books and discuss an end of the year party and awards.

County Council/Junior Leaders

By: Shiloh Anuez

In our last meeting on April 20, we discussed the CWF trip. We will be leaving on June 26 and returning on July 5. Make sure you bring plenty of money for food and extra fees. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Spann. Remember that your record books are due to the Extension Office no later than 5:00 PM on May 17.

Our last meeting will be on May 22 and we will be going to Disney Quest. It will be \$20 per person plus the cost of food. I hope everyone will be able to join in on the fun!

Places To Go

By: Pat McCoy

The Places To Go club discussed completing record books. Members should complete the Take The Bait work book as well as the general record book. They must be turned into the Extension Office no later than 5:00 PM on May 17. We talked about our Memorial Day camping trip to 4-H Camp Cloverleaf on May 29-31.

Our next regular meeting will be on May 25 at 6:00 PM at the Extension Office. If you have questions, please call Mrs. McCoy at 467-5437 or 697-2877.

Raisin' Em Right

By: Zachary Stripling

Shayla reminded everyone that their record books are due to the Extension Office no later than 5:00 PM on May 17. Shayla thanked all the members of Raisin' Em Right for the hard work at the OYLS. Mrs. Angela said she was very proud of our first year. Here are the class results from the OYLS:

Ashleigh Ezard	3 rd in class	John Shelton	4 th in class
Zachary Stripling	2 nd in class	Cristin Shelton	4 th in class
Riley Kirksey	2 nd in class	Macy Culligan	4 th in class
Shayla Pendrey	4 th in class	Aladin Sherwood	1 st in class
	McAriel Sherwood	6 th in class	

Mrs. Angela told all of us that the Buyer's Plaques will be due at the Annual Meeting, which will be on May 27 at 7:00 PM and the Osceola Middle School gym. Our end of the year party will be June 13 from 1-4:00 PM at the Basinger Civic Center. Remember to bring a covered dish (meat will be provided – thank you Ms. Angela and Ms. Soto!).

Sharp Shooters

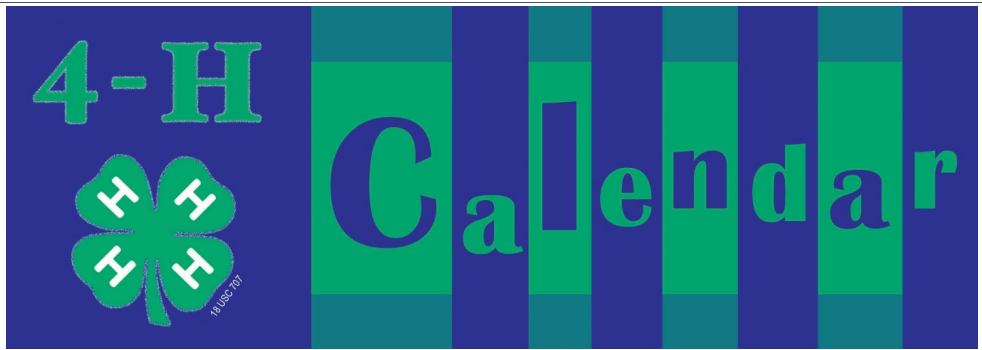
By: Lori Menedez

We will be having our next meeting on May 20, at 7:00 PM at Mr. Sellers' house. At that time we will discuss our final shoot and the end of the year party. Please remember that your record book is due by Monday, May 17 before 5:00PM at the Extension Office. Mr. Sellers plans to be there to sign your book. If you plan to turn you book in before the 17, please make arrangements with Mr. Sellers to sign them before they are turned in to the office. If you have any questions about completing your record book, please call any of our clubs volunteers or the Extension Office and they will be more than happy to assist you. We had very few members show up for our last meeting and even fewer for the shoot. Our 4-H calendar year is not over so please try to attend our functions. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Steaks & Chops

Remember to turn your record books in by May 17 before 5:00 PM to the Extension Office. Steaks & Chops will not have a May meeting, but we will see you all at the Annual Meeting on May 27 at Osceola Middle School gym at 7:00 PM. Please see either Ms. Jessika or Ms. Cindy before you leave the meeting. Be sure to have your buyer's plaque before than!

No news submitted from Absolutely Splitting Hares, Bacon Bunch, Bits & Spurs, Chobee Crackers On The Hoof, Rough Riders, Swine Time, Udder Bunch, Wild Bunch or Moving Forward. If you are a member of any of these clubs, please contact your leader for May meeting information.



Monday, May 10

Tropicana Speech Contest
Freshman Campus Auditorium
4:30 PM

Monday, May 17

Record Books Due!
Extension Office
Before 5:00 PM
See "What is a Completed 4-H Project"

Thursday, May 27

OYLS Annual Meeting
Osceola Middle School Gym
7:00 PM

*Must have turned in buyer's thank you letter, record book and
have your buyer's plaque to present in order to receive your check.*

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day
Extension Office Closed



WHAT IS A COMPLETED 4-H PROJECT

A complete project consists of:

1. Completed record sheet meeting the minimum requirements.
2. 4-H Story (check out the score sheet to make sure you answer all points.)
3. Demonstration
4. Exhibit

Steps to completing a project:

1. Plan
2. Do work
3. Share
4. Record, including story

You should have been keeping your records up-to-date through the year as you worked on your project.

Record sheets are either a part of your project book or separate sheets you received at the beginning of the 4-H year with your project book.

4-H Story – A 4-H story should be close to a page for first year members and increase in length and depth with experience. Each 4-H story includes:

1. Name
2. Age
3. Name of your club
4. Name of your leader
5. Number of years in this project
6. Extra things you did
7. Reactions of your family, etc., towards your work in this project
8. What you have learned and mistakes you have made
9. Give the title of your demonstration and tell something about it
10. Other appropriate information

****Refer to the Record Book Score Sheets:****

Available online at:

<http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu/Okeechobee.4-H.htm>

4-H LEADERS:

Please turn in your plan of work if you have not already done so.

Reports for the newsletter are due the 20th of each month. Please remember to turn them in on time!!

Report can be turned in to the Extension Office, faxed to (863) 763-6745 or e-mailed to lmhougt@ufl.edu

**4-H Age Divisions
As of Sept 1, 2009**

Cloverbud: 5-7

Junior: 8-10

Intermediate: 11-13

Senior: 14-18

**It's time to sign
up to decorate
the bulletin
board again!
Please call the
Extension Office
to reserve your
club's month!**

Your 4-H Story

Your 4-H story is a very important part of your record book. It should convey to your readers what you have learned by participating in 4-H.

The following outline may help you in developing your story:

- Part 1 Introduce yourself – include your age, interests, family, where you live, where you go to school and when and why you joined 4-H.
- Part 2 Tell about the project or activity – why did you choose this project? Which goals did you set? What goals did you reach? What have you learned from this project? Describe how you arranged for financing, losses and savings.
- Part 3 Highlight other 4-H projects and activities – include major learning experiences and special interests in 4-H.
- Part 4 Explain how 4-H has helped you become a better leader and citizen. Describe the offices you have held and committee assignments you have accepted. Explain how you have learned to accept responsibilities.
- Part 5 Describe how 4-H has influenced your school and career goals. Tell about your plans for the future.



"H₂O Encounter"

4-H Environmental Education Day Camp

Registration forms are now available at the Extension Office. Camp is open to all youth ages 8-18 years of age as of September 1, 2009.

This year's camp weeks are:

June 14-18 June 28-July 2 July 12-16 July 26-30

HURRY! Camps fill up fast!

"Just Horsing Around"

4-H Horse Day Camp



Camp is open to all youth ages 8-18 as of September 1, 2009.

Cost of camp is \$125

(\$100 registration fee; \$25 stall fee)

Pre-registration is required

Participants must provide their own horse

June 21-25

June 28-July 2

July 12-16

Contact the Extension Office for more information

(863) 763-6469

458 Hwy 98 North, Okeechobee, FL 34972

ADVENTURES IN HISTORY



4-H HISTORY DAY CAMP

JULY 19-23

\$100 REGISTRATION FEE

CAMP IS OPEN TO ALL YOUTH AGES 8-18 AS OF
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE
EXTENSION OFFICE:

(863) 763-6469

458 HWY 98 NORTH, OKEECHOBEE, FL 34972

Camp Registration forms available online!



You Can Help Support Florida 4-H Agents

The **Comfort Inn West** in Gainesville is offering a promotion called “People Helping People” for the 2010 calendar year. With any sleeping rooms booked with them this year, **10% of that room rate will come back to Florida 4-H.** Currently we have negotiated a \$79.00 a night double room rate which includes free wireless, deluxe continental breakfast, fridge and microwave in the room - this rate is good for the entire year - except during certain times (game days, graduation, etc) but they will also donate 10% of that higher roomrate to 4-H. When booking a room **you MUST say you are with UF4-H** for these rates and promotion to take affect. Any funds generated from the 10% contribution to 4-H will be used to support the 2012 NAE4-HA Conference that Florida is hosting.

They also have a meeting room with an area set aside for snacks and refreshments that is available for small groups (15-20). With the rental of this room, 10% will also be donated to Florida 4-H.

I would like to encourage you to share this information with your co-workers in your office and colleagues in your district that **if coming to Gainesville for any overnight meeting** to consider staying at the **Comfort Inn West - off Archer Rd** - past Cabot Lodge and Steak & Shake. The rate is great and you will also be supporting the 2012 Conference. This rate is also good for families, guests, etc coming to town as long as you mention **UF 4-H** when making your reservations.



3rd Annual Range Cattle Research and Education Center / South Florida Beef Forage Program: Youth Field Day *Tuesday, June 29, 2010*

For complete information, go to this webpage:

<http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/events/yfd062910.shtml>

This year's classes were designed to give older students more in-depth, technical, hands-on instruction to strengthen their knowledge in a variety of agriculture disciplines. This year many of the classes will give instruction in beef cattle health and production.

This event is structured for mature students ages of 8 – 18 years. To maximize the quality of class instruction, class sizes will be limited to 32 students; therefore, only 250 student slots are available for this field day. The registration of 4-H & FFA leaders, parents, and other adults will be limited to allow more class space for students.

All students and adults attending MUST register. The \$10 registration fee includes a t-shirt, lunch, and class literature.

Each of the 250 students will be assigned to one of eight groups of 32 students each. Students will be randomly assigned to groups- placement with a friend can be requested. Each group will be guided throughout the day by their own personal Youth Field Day (YFD) Group Leader. These adult volunteers will lead their assigned students to classes and help them with any questions they may have. All students will attend the same classes during the day, just at different times.

2010 Classes:

Triangle of Fire: Even fire plays a role in beef production! State foresters will explain how fire benefits flora and fauna on Florida ranches and the three conditions that must be present for fire to burn. See the effects of removing just one arm of the triangle during live controlled burn demonstrations.

Weed Scavenger Hunt on 'Sweet & Sour' All that sparkles isn't gold, and all that is green isn't grass! Scavenger through our unique weed garden to identify green things we hate to see in the pasture and learn what to do if you find them. Also identify soil pH ranges in which weeds and desirable forages thrive in.

Birds and Bees of Beef Cattle Want to see what those guys are feeling when they're pregnancy checking cows? How about when they use artificial insemination to breed cows? We'll have it all for you to see, feel, and practice!

Bug-Free Beef Learn why we administer dewormers to livestock. Are you a good shot? Learn how and where to administer injections on cattle! Learn how to read drug labels to keep Beef safe and healthy.

Cattle Tour Take a short wagon ride to see some of the studies currently being conducted here at the RCREC. See some of the breeds of cattle we work with, cow/calf pairs and bulls.

Workin' Cows See what it's like to spend a day in the pens... learn how to properly handle cattle, administer implants and discuss their role in cattle production. We better know which cow we implanted... test your cowboy skills and learn the proper way to identify tag cows.

Packing the Cowherd Pounds We have a system to rate cattle's nutritional status, and it goes beyond 'rail thin' and 'mud fat'. Learn how to assign body condition scores to real cows, what those numbers mean for production, and how to manipulate nutrients to change a cow's score. Florida cattle heavily rely on forage for the nutrients -- learn about the different varieties, how we plant, grow, test, harvest, and its role in keeping Florida green!

Protecting Fingers, Toes, & In-Betweens Stay safe & healthy on the ranch. Learn how to avoid accidents while working and playing around livestock and farm equipment.

Kelly Blue Book for Beef Cattle Combine Carfax and tire kicking for cattle buying. Come sit in the "Sale Barn" and learn how to use both EPD's and visual inspection when purchasing your bulls and cows. Remember all that carcass stuff they talked about when you showed your animal at fair last year? Use an ultrasound machine to look at real cuts of meat in the live animal to see first hand what it is all about!

~ Schedule of Events ~

8:00 - 8:40 AM	Sign-in and Trade Show
8:40 - 9:00	CALS Ambassador Presentation (under the equipment barn)
9:00	Welcome Instructions
9:10	Break from assemble Small groups with their assigned YFD group leaders proceed to 1st class.
9:20	AM Rotation Classes Begin - All classes will last 30 minutes with 3 minutes between classes for rotation.
Lunch - Enjoy lunch with your group and YFD leader. Lunch times will vary depending on your groups class rotation schedule.	
PM Rotations	The afternoon class rotations will begin at either 12:52 or 1:20, depending on your group's schedule.
3:30 PM	Large group assemble - Final remarks and submit evaluations
3:35 PM	Dismiss

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Once on Experiment Station Road watch for signs directing you to the parking area. Plan to arrive early giving yourself (or your group) enough time to sign-in and walk to the morning assemble area (the equipment barn). This process will take you between 10 - 20 minutes. Sign-in is a must! There you will pick up your field day booklet which contains your literature, presenter evaluation forms, meal ticket and group assignment.

Registration Form online: <http://rcrec-ona.ifas.ufl.edu/events/yfdreqform.shtml>

Flyer Available on Okeechobee Extension Events page:
<http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu/Events.htm>

If you have any questions please contact Reyna: Phone, 863-735-1314 ext. 206 or E-Mail, ona@ifas.ufl.edu. Persons requiring special accommodations, per the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact Andrea at (863) 735-1314 at least (5) five working days prior to the field day.

May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 District Events Highlands County	
2	3	4 Rough Riders E.O.—7:00 PM	5	6	7 Youth Hunter Education Challenge May 7-8	8	
9 Mother's Day	10 Tropicana Speech Contest—Freshman Campus Auditorium 4:30 PM ***** Chobee Roundup OMS—6:30 PM	11 Beef-N-Bacon Raisers Pizza Party Farm Credit—6:30 PM	12	13	14 Deadline for Congress Registration	15 Dairy Judging Try-outs 10:00 AM Butler Oaks	
16	17 4-H Record Books Due before 5:00 PM to the E.O.	18	19 Deadline for State Horsemanship School Registration	20 OHS Scholarship Night 6:00 PM ***** Sharp Shooters Mr. Sellers' - 7 PM	21	22 CC/JL Trip to Disney Quest	
23 Chobee Cattle Kids Party @ Humphrey's 1-4:00 PM	24	25 Places To Go E.O.—6:00 PM	26 Portfolios mailed to Gainesville	27 OYLS Annual Meeting OMS—7:00 PM	28	29 Places To Go Camping Trip Camp Cloverleaf May 29-31	
30 Places To Go Camping Trip Camp Cloverleaf May 29-31	31 Memorial Day E.O. Closed ***** Places To Go Camping Trip Camp Cloverleaf May 29-31		Raisin' Em Right June 13 End of year party Basinger Civic Center				