June - July 2008

2008 4-H Awards Banquet

Over 400 4-H youth, family members, volunteers, leaders, foundation members, donors, and supporters, attended the 52nd Annual Manatee County 4-H Awards Banquet on May 22nd at the Manatee Civic Center. The night showcased the achievements of 4-H’ers during the 2007-2008 4-H year. All 4-H members who turned in a record book received a 4-H year pin. Lamp of Knowledge Project Awards, given to the top record books submitted by juniors, were awarded to: Savannah Carpenter, Beth Cienniecki, Rachel Elek, Rebecca Elek, Abigel Hendrickson-Boyd, Isabella LaVassaur, Tabetha Lex, Isaiah Masengale, Cody Massey, and Morgan Sloat. Alumni Pins were presented to graduating 4-H seniors: Megan Cook, Ashley Jordan, Melissa McDonald, Katie Morris, and Melanie Rhoades. Several 4-H members received project pins, which are given to those youth who submitted the top record books in various projects areas. They were: Achievement - Megan Cook; Beef - Naomi Masengale, Maria Matthews, Courtney Wingate, Alexandria Youngs; Beef - Breeding - Tyler Harper, Lydia Masengale, Rose Wardell, Rebecca Yochim; Clothing - Rebekah Gillett; Community Service - Ben Durrance; Dairy - Jenna Arnott, Kelley Jorgensen, Chelsea Ogle, Courtney Ogle, Zack Quattlebaum; Dairy Goat - Elisabeth Herriman, Corey Hicks, Vincent Jeffries, Kevin O’Brien, Bill Tillett; Dog - Caleb Martin, Gabrielle Rennhack, Hannah Rennhack, Chelsea Thornburg; Food Preservation - Crystal Arnett; Health - Nicole Froelich, Ethan Harris; Hog & Ham - Adam Gillett; Horse - Ariel Affolter, Kristie Affolter, Stacie Herbach, Sierra Oliver, Shayla Routh; Horticulture/ FNGLA - Katie Cienniecki, Margaret Duryea, Hope Rolon, Jesse Rolon, Rachel Xavier; Land Judging - Joshua Arnett, Ethan Gillett, Russell Rhoades; Leadership - Melanie Rhoades; Pet Pals - Samuel Byers, Savannah Byers, Grant Fulkerson, Bryce Makowski; Photography - Joel Delaney, Sarah Delaney, Sarah Yochim; Poultry - Matthew Misener, Richard Wheeler; Rabbits - Rachel Herriman; and Swine - Caleb Allen, Taylor Harrell, Mark Sharp, and Corey White.

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Livestock Evaluation Day Camp

Youth ages 8-18 interested in learning about livestock evaluation should mark their calendars for the Manatee County Livestock Evaluation Day Camp. This exciting day camp will be held Tuesday, July 8th - Friday, July 11th in the Rogers Auditorium. Mrs. Christa Kirby, Livestock Agent, will be hosting the camp, which will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily. Topics for the four-day camp will include livestock evaluation cards, terminology, determining cuts, scores, and much more. The focus for the camp will be on steers, heifers, bulls, and swine. Cost for the camp is only $15 for all four days or $5 per day, which includes lunch and snacks for each youth. For more information or to pre-register for the event (by the Thursday, July 3rd deadline) please contact Mrs. Kirby at 722-4524.

Area E & State 4-H Horse Shows

Congratulations to the Manatee County 4-H’ers who competed at the Area E Horse Show in April. The following 11 4-H’ers qualified for the state horse show: Kristie Affolter, Beth Ciemniecki, Megan Cook, QuinLynne Kalish, Jessica Katzenberger, Tabetha Lex, Audrey May, Katie Morris, Sierra Oliver, Kathryn Varnadore, and Shannon Vickers. Way to go, and good luck at the State 4-H Horse Show, July 10th - 12th at the State Fairgrounds in Tampa.

For more information on events contained in this month’s newsletter, visit the Manatee County 4-H website at http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/4H/index.shtml.

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In the 4-H Spring Vegetable Gardening Contest, Gecko Garden 4-H Club won first place in the club/group category. Winners in the individual garden category were: Samuel Byers - first; Matthew Misener - second; and Dannie Glassburn - third. The Conservationist of the Year Award went to Ethan Gillett. Audrey May was named Horseman of the Year in the junior/intermediate division and Megan Cook in the senior division. 4-H members were also recognized for submitting Outstanding 4-H Record Books. Rachel Elek was the junior winner, Samuel Byers was the intermediate winner, and Rachel Herriman was the senior division winner. Finally, three 4-H’ers were recognized for their overall 4-H involvement and achievement and were awarded the Outstanding Overall 4-H’er Award; Kirstin Duryea - junior, Courtney Wingate - intermediate, and Kelley Jorgensen - senior. Each and every 4-H’er who submitted a record book should be commended for their hard-work and creativity. Special thanks to Clements Surveying, Come See Come Sav, DuWet Pools, Manatee County 4-H Foundation, Manatee County 4-H Horse Committee, and Manatee River Soil & Water District for sponsoring various areas of the awards program.

2008 - 2009 Youth & Leader Council Officers

4-H would like to extend a special thanks to the youth and leaders who served as officers for the Youth & Leader Councils for the 2007 - 2008 4-H year. Newly elected Youth Council officers for the 2008 - 2009 4-H year are: Brian Semrinec - President; Vincent Jeffries - Council Delegate; Russell Rhodeas - Vice President; Bill Tillett - Secretary; Ben Durrance - Reporter; and Elisabeth Herriman - Historian. Incoming Leader Council officers are: Duane Masengale - President; Gene Glassburn - Vice President; and Lisa Froelich - Secretary/Treasurer. Thank you once again to all the youth and adults.

4-H’ers Attending Florida 4-H Congress

July 21st - 25th, 13 Manatee County 4-H’ers will attend Florida 4-H Congress in Gainesville. Participants will take part in workshops, tours, community service projects, evening activities, and much more to build valuable leadership skills. Representing Manatee County will be: Bradley Bennett, Megan Cook, Ben Durrance, Dustin Glassburn, Elisabeth Herriman, Rachel Herriman, Vincent Jeffries, Katelyn Kersey, Alicia LaPlante, Caleb Martin, Katie Steiff, Michael Stephens, and Rose Wardell. Elisabeth Herriman will also be representing Manatee County as she competes in State Events. Good luck and have a great time!
On May 3rd, 16 Manatee County 4-H'ers, along with their families and 4-H staff, traveled to Bartow High School in Polk County for District 9 4-H Events Day. These 4-H members represented Manatee County as they competed against 4-H'ers from Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties in several categories as they presented demonstrations, illustrated talks, and Share-the-Fun acts. Congratulations to all the youth who participated, and represented Manatee County so well! 4-H members received the following ribbons: Caleb Allen - blue; Savannah Byers - blue; Rachel Elek - red; Rebecca Elek - red; Caleb Freeman - red; Joshua Freeman - blue; Nicole Froelich - blue; Dannie Glassburn - blue; Ethan Harris - red; Elisabeth Herriman - red; Rachel Herriman - blue; Vincent Jeffries - blue; Elizabeth King - blue; Bryce Makowski - blue; Jordan Makowski - blue; and Haley Yancey - red. Special congratulations to Savannah Byers, Joshua Freeman, Nicole Froelich, Elisabeth Herriman, and Elizabeth King for placing first in their categories.

Our May meeting began by reminding members about the upcoming fun day and the registration deadline for residential camp. Scholarships are available to members based on achievements and financial need. Congratulations to our four club members competing at the state horse show; Kristen Affolter, Beth Ciemniecki, Tabetha Lex, and Sierra Oliver. These youth will need to get together to discuss stall decorations. Special thanks to Shayla Routh for helping with new and old member’s sign-up and to our scrap-bookers (Katie Ciemniecki, Beth Ciemniecki, Sierra Oliver, and Tabetha Lex) for doing such a great job on our club book! We hope everyone had a great 4-H year and we look forward to seeing you in the fall.

All club organizational and co-organizational leaders must attend re-enrollment training on Monday, August 4th in order to register their clubs for the 2008 - 2009 4-H year. The training will be held from 6 - 9 p.m. in the Rogers Auditorium and all 4-H leaders are invited to attend as a part of their club’s leadership team. Call the 4-H Office at 722-4524 by Wednesday, July 30th to register.

The Florida Association for Home & Community Education has several $300 scholarship grants available to 4-H’ers. The scholarship grant is available to any 4-H member who has completed at least three years of 4-H work. The grant is to be used for educational expenses at a Florida state university, junior college, or vo-tech school. For an application and a complete listing of additional application materials, stop by the 4-H Office or visit the FAHCE website at http://fycs.ifas.ufl.edu/areas/fahce/pdf/Scholarship%20Grant%20Guidelines.pdf. Applications and materials must be postmarked by Friday, August 15th.
Manatee County 4-H Calendar of Events  
June 2008 - August 2008

**JUNE 2008**

14 Flag Day

15-20 Horsemanship School ~ Welaka State Forest

15-21 Citizenship Washington Focus ~ Washington D.C.

16 Rabbit Focus Meeting ~ Rogers Auditorium, 6 p.m.

17 Horse Parents’ Meeting ~ Rogers Auditorium, 7 p.m.

20-22 State Volunteer Forum ~ Camp Cloverleaf

22-27 Horsemanship School ~ Welaka State Forest

23-27 State 4-H Legislature ~ Tallahassee

24 Congress Orientation ~ Kendrick Auditorium, 6 p.m.  
Camp Orientation ~ 4-H Center, 7 p.m.

**JULY 2008**

14-18 Manatee County Junior Residential Camp ~ 4-H  
Camp Cloverleaf

21-25 State 4-H Congress ~ Gainesville  
State Marine Camp ~ Timpoochee 4-H Center  
Shooting Sports & Sport Fishing Camp ~ 4-H Camp Cloverleaf

28-31 Gator Adventures ~ 4-H Camp Cloverleaf

8/1

29- Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championships ~  
Lexington, Virginia

30 DUE: Reservation for Re-Enrollment Training

**AUGUST 2008**

4 Re-enrollment Training ~ 4-H Center, 6 - 9 p.m.

8 DUE: Registration and fee for Southern Region  
Volunteer Leader Forum

12-14 Hog & Ham Harvest ~ Gainesville

**OFFICE CLOSED ~ INDEPENDENCE DAY**

4  
8-11 Livestock Evaluation Day Camp ~ Rogers  
Auditorium, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

10-12 State 4-H Horse Show ~ Tampa State Fairgrounds