



**Austin County 4-H**

**AgriLIFE EXTENSION**

Texas A&M System

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## **Review**

### **April - May, 2012**

#### **4-H Council/PLA Meeting**

Thursday, May 3, 2012

7pm - FNB Civic Center in Bellville

All 4-H members, especially club officers, are highly encouraged to attend the Council meeting. We will be discussing summer activities, officer nominations, and much more.

PLA will be discussing upcoming activities, summer activities, hamburger stand, and much more!

Hope to see you there!

#### **Council Wants YOU!**

In an effort to get prepared for the next 4-H Council year, Austin County 4-H Council is in the process of making some wonderful changes to encourage participation on the county level. Most importantly, in order for them to do it, your input will be vital.

Council would like to incorporate club incentives for 100% participation by club council delegates. 4-H Council wants to represent the heart and desires of its membership. Each club's voice should be heard and that will be the primary goal for 4-H Council. On another note, amendments to the by-laws will be presented at the May meeting. As your club delegate, please make every effort to participate if at all possible. In addition, currently we only have four members eligible to run for a Council office and we are in need of 4-Hers with Council experience. If you have Council experience and have attended the minimum number required to run, consider running for a Council office. This is your year! Please feel free to contact the Extension office for more detailed information.

#### **Letter of Intent for 2012-2013 4-H Council Officer Candidates**

If you are considering running for an office for the next 4-H Council year, your letter of intent is due in the County Extension Office by Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. The letter of intent is attached.

#### **Club Elections Are Just Around the Corner**

Club Managers, thank you so much for all that you do for the minds of tomorrow. As most of you know, 4-H Club Officer elections are almost upon us. In order for us to send personal invitations for Leader's Camp, we will need your 2012-2013 Club Officer's list as soon as your 4-Hers are elected. In addition, we would like the 2011-2012 Club Officer's to take an active role in assisting with the planning and coordination of this year's Leader's Camp. We want it to be fun, exciting and educational! Please ask one or two of your current officers to volunteer to participate in the planning meeting. Once they have been selected, please forward their names to the County Extension Office. A date for the Leader's Camp planning meeting will be scheduled at the May 4-H Council meeting. Your assistance is always greatly appreciated!

### **Leadership and Community Service Opportunities**

#### **Ag in the Classroom**

Monday, May 7, 2012

Austin County Fairgrounds

Volunteers are needed to serve as tour guides for Ag in the Classroom. Sign up is on priority basis. Call the office by Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> to sign up. Interested youth must be in good academic standings, must be in high school, and must have a 4-H shirt to wear on that day. Your meal will be provided.

#### **Youth Safety Day**

Wednesday, May 23, 2012

Austin County Fairgrounds

4-H volunteers needed to serve as tour guides for Youth Safety Day. Like Ag in the Classroom, sign up is on priority basis. Interested youth must be in good academic standings, must be in high school, and must have a 4-H shirt to wear. Call the office by Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Your meal will be provided.

## ***Mother's Day Miracle Run***

Saturday, May 5, 2012

Join the community in showing your support for Breast Cancer Awareness, Research, and for those affected by Breast Cancer. Registration will begin at 7:30 am with the run/walk beginning at 9am. The start and finish line will be at Young Life in Bellville. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards will be provided for youth runners. \$20.00 registration fee due by April 21, 2012 and sign up forms are in the Extension Office. A late fee of \$5.00 will be applied after the 21<sup>st</sup>. For more information, call Michelle Allen at the Extension office.

4-H volunteers are needed to help with registration, water and snack stations, and other areas as needed. Call the Extension office by Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> to sign up.

## ***Recordbooks and Star Awards***

Now is the time to start working on recordbooks. Recordbooks are a way for you to showcase your recordkeeping skills while highlighting your 4-H career. It is good for completing scholarship applications and for resumes. By doing a recordbook each year, you enable yourself to keep track of your entire 4-H career. Senior members can also earn a trip to Washington, D.C.

Along with recordbooks, comes the opportunity to win a Star Award. Star Awards include Rising (8-10 years old), Bronze (11-12 years old), Silver (13-14 years old), and Gold (15 and older). Gold Star Award recipients will receive a scholarship upon graduation. In addition, the "I Dare You" Award will be added back into the lineup for senior aged 4-H members. For more information, refer to the Austin County 4-H Member Handbook.

Recordbooks and Star Award Applications are due Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Star Award Interviews will be Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Interview times will be given when the application is submitted.

## ***Recordbook Judges Needed***

Parents we are looking for judges for County and District Recordbook Judging. Your assistance would be much appreciated. This would also give you an excellent opportunity to learn more about the

recordbook. County Recordbook Judging is currently scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> and District will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup>. County Recordbook Judging will be conducted in Colorado County and the location for district will be announced at a later date. Each county is required to submit two individuals to assist with the judging process on the District level. Your assistance would definitely help us meet this requirement. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the office.

## ***Camp Scholarship Program***

The purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to the 4-H youth of Austin County who plan to attend a 4-H leadership or educational camp. Interested youth must be willing to share their knowledge and experience with the county program. Applications are due by Friday, May 4, 2012. For more information on requirements, contact the Extension office.

## ***Prestige Leadership Camp***

The 2012 Prestige Leadership Camp for County Council Officer's will be held on June 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the J Bar J Ranch in Sealy, Texas. Individuals considering running for a Council office are highly encouraged to participate. This multi-county opportunity will be designed to prepare you for an exciting year of leadership experiences. Please mark the date on your calendar and look for more information in the coming weeks.

## ***Leader's Camp***

Leaders Camp has been scheduled for July 13, 2012. This camp will provide incoming 4-H Club Officer's with the necessary skills to lead their 4-H Club with confidence and knowledge. Youth will learn how to conduct a meeting, use basic parliamentary procedures, coordinate activities, lead recreation, plan recruitment efforts and much, much more. Please save the date and look for more information soon!

## ***4-H Enrollment for 2012-2013***

As of September 1, 2011, all youth who register for 4-H membership will be assessed an annual participation fee. The enrollment process will once

again begin in August. Please mark your calendar in preparation for the next year of 4-H opportunities.

The annual participation fee will be \$25.00. The early enrollment fee will be \$20.00 if done between August and October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **4-H Lamb and Goat Project Meeting**

The Lamb and Goat project group will be holding it's first meeting of the year on Thursday, April 19, 2012, at the Extension Office in Bellville. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. This month's program will include an update on fair rules, getting started with your lamb and goat project and animal selection. A breeder list, Fair Rule Book and 4-H project guide will be handed out at the program.

### **Livestock Project Group Drive-Thru Fundraiser**

The Livestock Project Group helps to sponsor our 4-H animal project meetings during the spring and summer, culminating in the Showmanship contest in August. The group also provides money for paying entry fees for our 4-H youth to participate in the many judging events held throughout the year, such as payment of entry fees for livestock, consumer decision making and dairy judging contests. One of their annual fundraising activities is a drive thru dinner. This year, the drive thru dinner will take place on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Tickets are available from the Extension Office and from your project leader. Meal tickets are \$8.00, and orders must be turned in by Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

## **Important Dates about Tag In and Validations for State and District Shows!!!**

### **State Fair Lamb, Goat and Swine Validation**

If you are planning on exhibiting a lamb, goat or swine project at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas on October 1-5, 2012, that animal will need to be validated. Tags are \$10.00 each and orders should be turned into the Extension Office by April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. State Fair animals will be validated on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### **State Steer Validation**

It's time once again to order steer validation tags for the major livestock shows. Validation of steers is required for anyone wanting to participate in the State Fair of Texas, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Houston, Austin or San Angelo. Tags are \$10.00 each and orders should be turned in by April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Steer validation will take place on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

### **Texas 4-H Horse Validation Program**

Beginning with this year's Horse Validation Program, the process will now be all electronically completed using the 4-H CONNECT online management system. ALL 4-H members who wish to show in a district or the state 4-H Horse Show(s) will be required to validate their horse(s) on the 4-H CONNECT system.

VALIDATION WILL BE OPEN FROM APRIL 1, 2012 TO MAY 1, 2012. Any horse validated before or after this date will not be accepted as a legitimate validated animal. An illustrated step-by-step instruction guide for families is available for download and reference from both the Texas 4-H website and the Texas AgriLife Extension Animal Science - Horse Section website.

Validation cost for each horse will be \$10.00. Each 4-H family validating a horse(s) will need to print an invoice for each horse and provide the invoice(s) and check to the County Extension Office. There is no limit to the number of horses that can be validated in the process.

In the past, there was a Grade Horse worksheet that included the need for sketching markings and colors of horses. That form is no longer required, however, it is a requirement for ALL horses that photos of the front, left side, and right side are uploaded during the validation entry process. The entire horse **MUST** be in the photograph. Photos should be as close as possible and markings should be clearly visible. The photo should be in jpg or gif format.

A pdf or jpg of the registration papers will be uploaded for registered horses. If you do not have capabilities with scanning papers, contact the Extension Office we will assist you. More information can be found on the following web site; [http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/horse\\_validation](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/horse_validation).

## ***Austin County Fair Steer and Heifer Tag In is April 28<sup>th</sup>!***

If you plan on exhibiting a halter heifer, market steer or a pen of two heifers at the Austin County Fair this year, then please mark Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012, on your calendar. That is the only tag in date available to persons wanting to participate in the show. Tag in will take place at Four County Livestock Auction in Industry from 7:00 - 10:00 a.m. There is a \$10.00 tag in fee per animal. Pen of Heifer exhibitors also will pay a \$50.00 pen nomination fee. Rule books are available from your project leader, the fair office, ag science teachers and the Extension Office.

## ***Austin County Fair Broiler Orders Due May 11<sup>th</sup>!***

Anyone interested in showing broilers at the Austin County Fair will need to order your birds by Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The birds will cost \$1.55 per chick. Please make the checks payable to Austin County Fair, no cash will be accepted. Completed order forms need to be turned into the Extension Office. All broiler orders must be ordered in lots of 25 per exhibitor. A family may purchase and feed broiler chicks in the same broiler facilities. This will be interpreted as immediate family living in the same household.

## ***Get Ready for the 2012 Poultry Institute for Youth***

The 2012 Poultry Institute for Youth will be held June 17-19, 2012 in College Station, TX. The Institute is an over-night enrichment camp for students who are interested in pursuing a bachelor's degree in Poultry Science or just interested in the poultry industry in general. Students will attend mini-lectures taught by our own Texas A&M University staff on topics such as anatomy, embryology, immunology, nutrition and processing. Students will also take field trips to a commercial layer facility and a commercial processing facility. To be eligible students must be entering their junior or senior year of high school during the fall 2012 semester. For the application or additional information, please go to <http://posc.tamu.edu/library/youthprograms/poultryinstitute/PoultryInstitute2012Final.pdf> or you can contact Jennifer Allen by phone or email at 979-845-1654 or [jallen@poultry.tamu.edu](mailto:jallen@poultry.tamu.edu)

## ***Austin County 4-H Sizzler Show***

The Austin County 4-H Sizzler show is a TJLA sanctioned show open to any 4-H and FFA member from across the state of Texas that is interested in exhibiting steers, halter heifers, lambs or goats. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in two shows and have their animals evaluated by two different judges.

The lamb and goat show will take place on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Weight and breed cards need to be turned in by 10:00 a.m. with the show to begin once classes are arranged. Entry fees for Ring A will be \$10.00, \$20.00 for Ring B.

The steer show will also take place on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Weight and breed cards will need to be turned in by 9:00 a.m., with the show to begin once classes are arranged. The Heifer Show will take place on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Breed registration papers will need to be turned in by 9:00 a.m. with the show beginning once classes are arranged. Entry fees for Ring A will be \$20.00, and \$25.00 for Ring B.

Proceeds from the show go to the Austin County 4-H Parent Leaders Association. We will need help from anyone interested in assisting with the two day event, working in one of the arena's, the 4-H concession stand and assisting with registration. If you would like to help out, please contact the Extension Office.

## Dates to Remember

- April 12 - Swine Project Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office  
Contact Person for Swine: Joe Mike Young 583-6346
- 14 - District 4-H Roundup Contest, Blinn College in Brenham
- 16 - District Consumer Judging Contest  
- Deadline for submitting State Fair Lamb, Goat and Swine Tag Orders, and State Steer Validation Tag Orders.
- 19 - Lamb and Goat project Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office  
Contact Person for Goats: Bobby Rinn (979) 251-4216, Contact Person for Sheep: Alfred Hall - 885-2495
- 20 - Deadline for Drive Thru Dinner Ticket Orders
- 21 - Multi District Judging Contest - Texas A&M University
- 22 - Livestock Project Group Fundraiser Drive Thru Dinner
- 28 - District Fashion Show - Victoria  
- Austin County Fair Steer and Heifer Tag In
- 30 - State Horse Validation Deadline
- May 3 - Austin County 4-H Council and Parent Leader Association Meetings, 7:00 p.m., First National Bank Civic Center Building in Bellville.
- 5 - 4-H Scholarship Interviews in Austin. ***Good Luck Brooks, Mitchell and Katelyn!***
- 7 - Ag in the Classroom - Austin County Fairgrounds
- 10 - Beef Project Group Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office  
Contact Persons for Beef: Philip Shackelford - 203-5633, or Erica Guerrero -251-8043
- 11 - Austin County Fair Broiler Order Deadline
- 15 - Major Show Turkey Orders Due!
- 19 - Lamb and Goat Project Meeting, 9:00 a.m. at the Austin County Fairgrounds in Bellville -  
Topic will be Daily Care and Feeding  
Contact Person: Bobby Rinn (979) 251-4216 or Contact Person: Alfred Hall - 885-2495
- 19-20 - Austin County 4-H Sizzler Jackpot Show, Austin County Fairgrounds  
Lambs and Goat Show on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Contact Person: Scott Gates (832) 439-1222  
Steer Show on the 19<sup>th</sup>, Heifer Show on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
Contact Person: Philip Shackelford - 203-5633
- 23 - Youth Safety Day - Austin County Fairgrounds

For more information regarding anything in this newsletter, please visit our county website or contact the Extension office. Also, please remember to utilize the State 4-H website and the District 11 website as a resource for contest/project information.

**County**  
<http://austin.agrilife.org/>

**District**  
<http://d114-h.tamu.edu/>

**State**  
<http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/>

Sincerely,



Michelle Allen  
County Extension Agent  
Family and Consumer Science  
Austin County



Philip Shackelford  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture  
Austin County

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.