

4-H Tip Sheet April 2009

Deadlines:

Mar 15 Venturers Registration Due
April 1 Shooting Sports Spring Match Registration Due
April 1 Name Tag Holder Orders Due
April 2 HEALTHFEST Registration Due
April 3 Basic Ops Registration Due
April 6 Team America Rocketry Challenge Registrations Due
April 15 Photo Adventure Camp Registration Due
May 1 Strengthening Clubs I and II Registration Due
May 1 National Shooting Sports Match Registration Due
May 1 Campference Registration Due
May 1 4-H Grant Applications Due
May 1 ASI Housing and Care Form
May 1 2-year-old Snaffle Bit Project Eligibility Due
May 15 990-N Due
June 15 ASI Housing and Care Form
June 26 National Camping Institute Proposals Due
July 15 Camp Counselor Recognition Due

Welcome Heather Baumberger!

We are pleased to welcome Heather Baumberger this spring as the Assistant Events Coordinator! As you've probably already seen, she has been assisting with the logistics of several state 4-H events including; Citizenship in Action, Discovery Days, Kansas City Global Conference, National 4-H Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus, Campference, and others. Heather is a graduate student with Family Studies Human Services and will be graduating this spring. This part-time position is funded on a temporary basis by several of these events.

[Wiebers](#)

Reminder -- Now's the Time to Put Your County Fair on the Master Calendar!

'Tis that time of year to submit the dates of your County Fair to Sue Robinson for the Master Schedule. In reality, the county fair season will begin in about four months. Both the Central Administration Office and the State 4-H Office receive calls regarding the dates for county fairs and it would be greatly appreciated if you would get the dates entered on the Master Schedule so that we can all provide better information and service to the callers. Many thanks.

[McNally](#)

Order Name Tag Holders Now

We are now accepting orders for the zipper pouch name tag holders that can be used for camps, conferences, and other events. The cost will be \$1.50 each. Please e-mail your order, including your name, group name, and number of name tags to rcurry@ksu.edu by April 1. Pick up availability is anticipated for May 15.

[Curry](#)

Farm Safety Issues

Seventeen percent of all farm injuries involve animals. The National Safety Council recorded beef cattle farms second and dairy farms third for injuries per hours worked when comparing all farming operations. Yet, young people do not view livestock dangerous. However, animals cause numerous fatalities and injures each year. When working with livestock, precautions are necessary. Size differences between large animals and a small person, an animal's unpredictability, and youth's lack of knowledge or skill can put young people at risk.

Safety suggestions for adults to share with young people working around animals:

- be calm, move slowly, and avoid loud noises
- wear closed-toed shoes

- avoid the hind legs of the animal
- approach large animals at the shoulder

Animals may look friendly, but can be unpredictable. Teach young people to be alert. Source: Farm Safety 4 Just Kids. [Van Horn](#)

Enrollment Software News

The Enrollment System Task Force will be reviewing the Access 4-H Enrollment System this spring for potential implementation in Kansas. To answer everyone's first question: Yes. Security has been top consideration as this web-based system is being developed.

Task Force Members include:

Phyllis Babb, Sedgwick County Office Professional
DeWayne Craghead, Hodgeman County Agent
Lela Jean Howerton, Rice County Office Professional
Sarah Laib, Shawnee County Agent
Sarah Maass, Central Kansas District Agent
Lori Shoemaker, Rice County Agent
Deryl Waldren, Northwest Area Specialist
Justin Wiebers, State 4-H Specialist

As they have an opportunity to review the system over the next couple months, please feel free to ask task force members questions and share your ideas and concerns.

[Wiebers](#)

Announcements of 2009 State 4-H Project and Scholarship Winners

Please note that notification of 2009 State 4-H Project Winners and alternates will be released to local Extension Offices via e-mail on or about April 1. After judging, there is some internal processing that includes checking preference forms completed by applicants.

2009 State 4-H Scholarship Winners will be released on or about April 15 to local Extension Offices via email. The delay between the two announcements is due to the written scholarship acceptance required of the recipients prior to announcement.

[Gerhard](#)

Kansas 4-H Funding Opportunity for Resource Families and Children in Care

Kansas 4-H Youth Development, Kansas 4-H Foundation and Saint Francis Community Services are working together to provide funding opportunities for children and families involved with foster care. New this year: 4-H camp grants! Kansas Resource Families that are already involved in a 4-H club or are interested in joining a 4-H club are eligible for 4-H Camp Grants. Resource Families are encouraged to complete the Kansas 4-H Resource Family Grant Application by May 1 and submit to Pam Van Horn, 201 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. For grant application check the Kansas 4-H Web page <http://www.Kansas4-H.org/>.

[Van Horn](#)

AYD

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4th FRIDAY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONVERSATIONS: MARCH 27 FOCUS on KANSAS DROPOUT PREVENTION INITIATIVE

Twelve participants logged on to last month's "4th Friday Youth Development Conversation", which featured Dr. Dale Blythe speaking about the four trends he sees for "Youth Development: Implications for the Future" (presentation available at: www.uvm.edu/extension/youthdevelopment).

We used the Connect web conferencing system along with webcams and headphones and had quite an adventure! Though we had some rough spots, we conversed about the relevance of quality impact versus outcome impact to the future of youth work.

This month's "4th Friday Youth Development Conversation" high school dropout in Kansas and across the United States. Elaine Johannes, who is a member of the Kansas Dropout Prevention Summit Task Force, will brief participants on the Kansas initiative, which is funded by America's Promise and we'll plan to discuss the issue with a more local focus. Check

out the [America's Promise Dropout Prevention](http://www.americaspromise.org/APAPage.aspx?id=9172) project at: (www.americaspromise.org/APAPage.aspx?id=9172)

Prior to the conversation, Elaine will work with Gerry Snyder to smooth those "rough spots" identified during last month's conversation.

In the mean time, dust off your headphones, check out the America's Promise Dropout Prevention site and get ready to converse on the 4th Friday (March 27) 11am-12pm).

Contact Elaine Johannes, 785-532-7720 (ejohanne@ksu.edu) if you have questions.
[Johannes](#)

BLUE RIBBON

Blue Ribbon "Group Enrollment" Training

We are still currently using the Blue Ribbon Youth Enrollment software and will be using it for reporting at least through this fall. A training session on "Group Enrollments" will be offered on Wednesday, March 25 at 10:00am. We will discuss how to properly enter school enrichment and other programs to accurately reflect the number of young people your programs reach. Registration is not required for this Adobe Connect session; just log into: <http://connect.oznet.ksu.edu/kansas4h/>

All participants, please test your computer before entering a Connect meeting room. First Timers, please go to the [Getting Started](#) page to install and test components. More information about Adobe Connect can be found on the KSRE Techweb at: <https://www.oznet.ksu.edu/techweb/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=658>
[Wiebers](#)

CMS

Kansas4-H.org Transition to CMS

The 4-H Youth Development Department has been strongly encouraged by IET to complete the transition of the Kansas4-H.org web site to the CMS system. After various classified staff vacancies and other department priorities, we are now succumbing to this request and have set April 1 as the date of change. State and Area Specialists, Office Professionals, program assistants and student workers are all working to transfer all of our information to the CMS site by our self-established deadline. Our existing web site has 508 web pages, 1,173 PDF documents, 461 Word documents, 214 WordPerfect documents and 1,658 jpg photos. We're trying to make sure we move all the appropriate files to the new site in a way that will still look familiar and maybe improve a few things along the way. We may miss a few items. After the transition, please feel free to let us know if you can't find something. We'll do our best to help you!

[Wiebers](#)

CAMP

Ready, SET, Camp!

Check out the 4-H Camping Web page for clip art and ideas. Coming soon are SET (Science, Engineering and Technology) lessons. Also, Bob Bauernfiend, would be available for Entomology camp sessions. He can be contacted at rbauernf@ksu.edu. Be sure to let Pam know if camp group is using the Camp Theme. [Camping](#)

[Van Horn](#)

Camp Promotions

The Kansas 4-H Journal's Camping Issue is out in circulation! Please utilize the issue to help promote camp throughout your Extension Unit. Many thanks extended to the Camp Action Team for their efforts in putting together a terrific piece. Special thanks to Robyn Dienes for coordinating efforts in collecting articles. Remember to take photos during this 2009 camping season as the CAT will be asking for pictures for the 2010 Camping Issue.

[Van Horn](#)

Avoid Brain Drain

Summer is coming with it's lazy, hazy months filled with playing, swimming, and loafing, but think again! Research has revealed all students experience learning losses when they are not engaged in educational activities during the summer. A typical teacher spends between four and six weeks re-teaching materials students forgot over the summer. So how can we assist youth to avoid the brain drain?!

Promote 4-H camp! Provide activities that stimulate youth to keep their minds active through learning experiences. Encourage campers to explore the natural environment by organizing a scavenger hunt for bugs, rocks, leaves or flowers.

At home during the summer, encourage project leaders to conduct project meetings to keep youth engaged and learning. A foods meeting can re-enforce math skills by weighing and measuring ingredients while members are having fun waiting for their snacks to bake! 4-H and summer educational opportunities are a great fit to beat brain drain!

[Van Horn](#)

Camp Counselor Recognition

The Camp Counselor Recognition Information is on the Web. Farm Bureau is again sponsoring this recognition. Camp Groups need to send a list of camp counselors to the State 4-H Office by July 15 for counselor to be recognized. The certificates will be in the State Fair packets. [Camping](#)

[Van Horn](#)

CAMPERENCE

2009 Ready SET Campference!

The Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council is excited to promote Campference! This event is focused on youth ages 12- 14 (before January 1, 2009), and will be held June 9-12, 2009, at Rock Springs 4-H Center.

Participants will experience the feel of a conference, while enjoying the "camp" activities Rock Springs 4-H Center has to offer. This is a great transitional opportunity, as these tweens go from being a camper to attending educational conferences. Campference will feature workshops about opportunities in the 4-H program, Science Engineering and Technology and activities to energize youth while learning leadership skills and how to better interact with others.

The cost for Campference is \$180. Registrations are due May 1 in local Extension Offices. Registration and detailed information are now on the web at: [Campference](#)

[Hinshaw/Maass](#)/Youth Leadership Council Campference Committee Members

CHARACTERCOUNTS!

Trust Must Be Earned and Protected

"In every organization I work with, people talk freely and frequently about the importance of trust as a crucial...asset. No one seems to doubt how important it is to...personal relationships, and everyone seems aware of the tremendous costs of distrust. Yet despite enlightened (talk) about trust, many people...regularly engage in conduct that undermines it and damages credibility. It's really simple: To be trusted, one has to be perceived as being trustworthy. That means being scrupulously honest even on little things, and especially when one may have to pay a high price. Trustworthiness is more than telling the truth. It requires conveying the truth. Deception through clever wording or half-truths is essentially dishonest. Individuals...that care about building and retaining trust don't rely on...loopholes (in rules) or take refuge in the fact that "you never asked." People worthy of our trust are forthright and candid as well as truthful. They tell us what they know we want to know, even if it's not in their self-interest. Thus, being trustworthy involves a complex trio of concepts: truthfulness, non-deception, and candor, all aspects of honesty. It also requires integrity, promise-keeping, and loyalty. We trust people who put principles above profit and have the courage of their convictions. We don't trust those who look for and find exceptions and special circumstances that justify dishonesty. Trust isn't attained by wishing and wanting. It must be earned by actions. And after it has been earned, it must be continually protected. Remember, even a little lie can raise the question: "What else have you lied to me about?" Michael Josephson, February 9, 2009.

[Gerhard](#)

CLOVERBUDS

Adventuresome, energetic, fun-loving, and sensitive are just a few of the characteristics of 5- and 6-year-olds. Creating a youth development program to match the high energy level, attention spans, and cooperative needs of this age group has been fun. Beginning the fall 2009, the Kansas 4-H Cloverbuds program will become the authorized 4-H education option for 5- and 6-year-olds. Want to become part of your local team? Come participate Thursday, June 4 during Discovery Days to learn how Kansas 4-H Cloverbuds can add fun and excitement for 5- and 6-year-olds. The 4-H Cloverbuds Training Team will offer an opportunity for extension agents, volunteers and teens to receive hands-on training. For more information contact Pam at pvanhorn@ksu.edu.

[Van Horn](#)

DOG

Dog Care and Training Project Update:

1. Kansas State Fair Dog Show -- September 19, 2009
-- NEW FOR 2009! Begin with Showmanship and Agility -- 9 am
-- Obedience Classes will follow Showmanship
-- Junior Showmanship - 9-11 year olds

2. New rule allows buckle collars. First sentence under "Collars" p.11 of Dog Show Rule Book now reads: "Dogs in the obedience ring should wear well-fitting slip or buckle collars of leather, chain or fabric." Please write in "or buckle" in your current book.

3. Dog Conference -- Oct.31-Nov.1, 2009, Rock Springs
-- Adding Impromptu talks in both Jr. and Sr. presentation divisions.
-- New Quiz Bowl References:
a) 4H968 Dog Resource Handbook
b) 4H965 Kansas 4-H Rally Obedience Rule Book

4. Dog Judges Training - Jan.30-31, 2010

[Adams](#)

DISCOVERY DAYS

Discovery Days...Endless Possibilities

Get ready because there are "Endless Possibilities" of exciting activities at Discovery Days 2009. This year, Discovery Days will be held Tuesday, June 2 through Friday, June 5 at the K-State campus in Manhattan.

Quick Facts:

- The cost will be \$160 per person.
- Again this year, Discovery Days and the FFA convention are at different times.
- The Discovery Days website has been updated with the course catalog, registration worksheet, and a letter for agents.
- We will be recognizing Influencers, County Growth, and many other achievements-- the possibilities are endless!
- Registration is now open at www.Kansas4-H.org

The Discovery Days action team has purchase postcards for counties to use to publicize Discovery Days. We have already mailed out a few to all counties, but if you would like more free postcards to mail to prospective delegates or for club leaders to hand out at meetings please email heatherb@ksu.edu

Notification has been sent out to previous Discovery Days delegates informing them that registration is open.

[Wiebers/Baumberger](#)

GEOLOGY

State 4-H Geology Field Trips - June 12-14, 2009

The annual Geology field trips will be held in southwest Kansas and Southeast Kansas this year. Watch for registration information and details in April.

[Adams](#)

HEALTHY LIVING

HEALTHFEST 2009! WILL FEATURE CATCH and HEALTH ROCKS! AT ROCK SPRINGS 4-H CENTER, APRIL 17-18

Youth (age 14-19) and adults are invited to the 5th Annual HealthFest!, co-sponsored by Kansas PRIDE, Family Studies and Human Services and 4-H. For \$60/person receive state-of-the-art physical activity and health promotion training.

This year's program features:

- * for EVERYONE (April 17, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.): Use GPS to increase physical activity
- * for ADULTS (April 18, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.): University of Texas training of the nationally recognized CATCH Kids Club afterschool/recreational curriculum, and
- * for YOUTH (ages 14-19; April 18, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.): National 4-H Health Rocks! training of youth trainers.

The \$60 fee, which includes materials (and tee shirt), overnight lodging, two meals, refreshments and 8 contact/continuing education hours). Register by April 2 since space is limited to 35 adults and 40 teens. Contact the Kansas PRIDE office, 785-532-5840, jmenon@ksu.edu (Jamie Menon), to register and receive billing information. Scholarships are available for groups planning to implement Health Rocks before January 2010.

For more information, contact Elaine Johannes, ejohanne@ksu.edu; Carol Fink, cfink@ksu.edu; Trudy Rice, trice@ksu.edu; or call Elaine Johannes at 785-532-7720.
[Johannes](#)

HORTICULTURE

Horticulture Judging

A big thank you to all Extension Units that had young people take part in the Horticulture Judging Contest during the Wichita Garden Show. The contest went well and we had an abundance of good help from agents and volunteers. Results can be found on the web: [Horticulture Judging Contest](#). The State Horticulture Judging Contest will be Saturday August 22, 2009 on the K-State Campus. More information will be available this summer.

[Hinshaw/Neier](#)

KANSAS STATE FAIR

"9 in '09" -- Age of Exhibitors at the Kansas State Fair

What is currently happening.... As announced in previous communications, 4-H members who are 9 years of the age before January 1, 2009 will be allowed to exhibit at the 2009 Kansas State Fair. Each competitive event was subject to review by the respective Action Team and Extension Staff responsible for competitive events at the State Fair. Please check the State Fair Book for specifics (i.e., the age of the exhibitor did not change for the State Fashion Revue). This change in policy was based upon a review of research in the field of youth development and recommended by the State 4-H Advisory Committee.

A bit of background information....To further study the implications of this change for all other state-level competitive events, a "9 in '09" Think Tank was formed to address the specific challenges and opportunities. They identified a variety of county/district-level competitive events and activities that could be impacted by the change in age. They proposed several strategies for consideration by Extension Staff, using a blog survey tool. A 6-week window of time was allowed for feedback from agents after visiting with their 4-H PDC members, 4-H Council and other key partners to determine the best option for their local program. The availability of resources was to have been taken into consideration in making their recommendations, with resources including staff time, volunteers, funding, awards, event schedules and flexibility in forming classes/groups. Of utmost importance in the decision making process was designing age appropriate learning experiences in a safe environment.

Upon a review of the survey responses, the Think Tank:

1) Determined that age appropriate learning experiences were very important in order for youth to have a positive experience which would challenge and encourage them to continue their 4-H membership. They determined that the skill set, knowledge and maturity of a 9-year-old is vastly different than a 13-year-old.

2) Recommended that State Events follow the new age categories. Counties/Districts are encouraged to consider implementation at the local level as well:

Beginner 7-8 years of age, before January 1 (Cooperative learning at the state level (when offered; cooperative learning or

competition at the local level)

Junior 9-11 years of age, before January 1

Intermediate 12-13 years of age, before January 1

Senior 14 years of age and older, before January 1

3) Recognized that state level competitive events provide unique challenges with unique complexities, with no two events being the same, and that the respective Action Team or Event Committee determine the timeline for implementation of age categories for each respective event. The major categories of events include:

Judging Contests: Family and Consumer Sciences, Horse, Horticulture, Livestock, Meats, Crops and Photography

Quiz Bowls: Horse, Dairy and Livestock

Skillathon: Livestock

Shows: Horse, Dog, Dairy, Rabbit, and Poultry

Events: Horse Panorama, Shooting Sports Matches, Wheat Show, Fashion Revue and State Fair Demonstrations

What's next....

Action Teams and Event Committees will determine the "what, when and how" of the implementation of recommended age categories in the respective competitive event and communicate this information in a timely manner to the system.

[McNally](#)

MARKETING

4-H Road Signs

182 signs will be popping up all over Kansas. Signs will be available on April 1 to pick up at JS Sign & Awning, 2501 Stagg Hill Road, Manhattan, Kansas. Signs will be shipped to those who requested soon after April 1.

[Mack](#)

OPERATION MILITARY KIDS

Operation Military Kids wants to help youth attend camp this summer!

We have several options for funding opportunities to help military connected kids attend camp. When we say military connected - we mean a child who's parent is Active Duty, National Guard, Army Reserve, Air Guard or any other branch of the military. The youth's parent does not have to be currently deployed.

Don't think you have military connected youth in your county or district? We now have numbers of youth. We do not have a lists of names of these youth, but Ann Domsch, OMK Project Coordinator, says the best source in reaching these youth is through your school counselors.

Funding Opportunities:

*\$100 towards camp registration fee. One, \$100 award, for each local unit to help send a child to camp. Camp must offer an OMK session taught by Ann Domsch. Please contact Ann by May 1. She has many creative ideas. After camp send an invoice to NE Area Extension Office - OMK. Invoice should say "Registration for (name) to attend 4- H Camp on (dates) at (site). Lodging and meals included with registration. Include soldier's rank."

*Conduct a one-day, Day Camp. OMK will provide funding and support for day long event. OMK will provide the funds to pay rent of a facility, supplies for classes, snacks and lunch, and marketing of the camp. Host site is responsible for providing American Income Life Special Activities Insurance, camp counselors and help in planning the day. OMK has dollars available to fund 5 one-day Day camps.

*Conduct a two-day, Day Camp (no overnight). OMK will provide funding and support for two-day long event with the themes of SET, Health, Environmental education, or Theater Arts. OMK will provide the funds to pay rent of a facility, supplies for classes, snacks and lunch, and marketing of the camp. Host site is responsible for providing American Income Life Special Activities Insurance, camp counselors and help in planning the two day event. OMK has dollars available to fund 4 two-day Day camps.

If you have questions, please contact Ann Domsch, OMK Project Coordinator, adomsch@ksu.edu or call 785-532-2276. Mack/Domsch

PHOTO ADVENTURE CAMP

The Stars Align at Photo Camp 2009, June 24 - 27, Rock Springs

Youth and adults interested in an in depth, intensive photography experience are invited to 4-H Photography Adventure Camp, June 24 - 27, 2009 at Rock Springs 4-H Center. Full information is available at: [Photography Events](#)

Photo Adventure Camp will include camera work, photo shooting, photo evaluation, trick photography, still life photography, group presentations and more photo shooting. Campers will also make a show of their photos. Photo Camp is for ages 13 - 16. Cost is the same as last year (\$150). Scholarships for first time campers and parent/leader child combos are available. Registrations are due April 15. If 25 campers are not registered by then, camp will be cancelled.

[Buchele](#)

SHOOTING SPORTS

Spring Shooting Sports Match, April 18, 2009 in Alma, Kansas

Online registration is up and ready for use! The Spring Match for Air Rifle, Air Pistol, and BB Gun will be April 18, 2009 in Alma. Since this is the first time that a state Shooting Sports Match has used online registration, there will be many first-time users and many issues to resolve. To compete, all participants must have shot at an approved state qualifying shoot and received a minimum score of 350 for Air Rifle, 100 for Air Pistol, or 275 for BB Gun. Registrations are due by 5 PM Wednesday, April 1 (No Exceptions!!!)

Also, for the first time, the spring match will be offering a meal in addition to T-shirts and the three discipline competitions. Anyone attending the matching desiring to eat the meal, buy a shirt or compete MUST register.

Extension Units will be invoiced shortly after the registration closes and the 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinators will be able to verify discipline enrollment, basic course completion and state match qualifying. Local Extension offices should collect fees from registrants after receiving an email invoice. The complete information and registration worksheets may be found at the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports homepage: [Shooting Sports Events](#). Hard copies have also been mailed to all 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinators.

Thanks in advance for your patience during this transition.

[Adams/Strong](#)

Shooting Sports Action Team Members Needed!

The Shooting Sports Action Team would like to encourage an agent or two that have specific interests to apply so that we could have the agents perspective represented. We could also use one or two more teen members. Please apply before March 27, 2009.

[Adams](#)

4-H Shooting Sports Calendar

Please add the following dates and locations to your calendar related to 4-H Shooting Sports in the coming months:

- * WHAT: Spring 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors Workshop
- * WHERE: Kansas State Fairgrounds (Hutchinson)
- * WHEN: Friday-Sunday, March 27-29, 2009
- * REGISTRATIONS ARE CLOSED
- * WHAT: State 4-H Spring Match (BB, Air Rifle, Air Pistol)
- * WHERE: Alma, Kansas
- * WHEN: Saturday, April 18, 2009
- * REGISTRATIONS DUE: On-line, Wednesday, April 1, 2009 5 PM, State 4-H Office (No Exception)

[Strong](#)

State Qualifying Shoots

Any Extension Unit that is wanting to send shooters to the State Match will need to make sure that the shooters have attended an approved state qualifying match. To find a list of approved qualifiers please check the Local Matches link on the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Homepage: [Shooting Sports Events](#). Information is also available on the Shooting Sports Homepage if you are interested in hosting a state qualifier.

[Strong](#)

National Shooting Sports Match

Any 4-Her who has shot at the state match and is interested in attending the National Shooting Sports Match needs to fill out an application. Applications are available on the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Homepage: [Shooting Sports Events](#). A registration fee of \$135 is needed with registration along with a media release form, also available online.

Filling out an application does not guarantee acceptance. The top four scoring individuals that turn in applications in each discipline will be selected for the teams. If the youth is not selected for the team the registration check will be returned. Applications are due to Paul Strong, 943 G Road, Kinsley, KS 67547 by May 1, 2009.

[Strong](#)

SpaceTech

SpaceTech Resources and Opportunities

Robotics and Geospatial: University of Nebraska 4-H is offering its Geospatial and Robotics Technology for the 21st Century or GEAR-Tech-21 Camps for 4-H members, leaders and Extension staff. The early bird deadline is April 1st, although registration will be taken until camps are full. To see a copy of the flyer visit: <http://4hset.unl.edu/itest/camp.php>.

Rocketry: With 4-H's partnership with the National Association of Rocketry (NAR), 4-H is able to make NAR resources available to 4-H volunteers free of charge. This is an extra resource that may be of use to county/district 4-H programs. The materials include the NAR Member Guidebook and two CD's on model rocket building and flying. Please let interested individuals know these materials are available. To receive them, 4-H Volunteers should send their name, e-mail address and mailing address to: GetSETInfo@fourhcouncil.edu. More information about NAR can be found at: <http://www.fourhcouncil.edu/nar.aspx>. The NAR is a nationwide network of local clubs with experienced rocketeers available to provide advice and launch sites for your flights. Many adult NAR members are "mentors" and assist individuals or schools in their local area, including 4-H. However, there are limited clubs in Kansas to contact. To view the current list of NAR mentors in Kansas, visit: www.nar.org/tarcmentors.pdf, or to find a NAR section nearest you, visit: www.nar.org/NARseclist.php.

General: The Kansas 4-H SpaceTech Action Team works to assist counties with advice and tips concentrating in these core areas: astronomy, aviation, robotics, rocketry, technology and GPS. In addition, the action team works with counties/districts to provide multi-county or area trainings for older members, leaders and Extension staff on a requested and feasible basis. In 2008, trainings were conducted in Hays and Holton. To contact the 4-H SpaceTech Action Team with your questions or requests, contact Deryl Waldren at dwaldren@ksu.edu or call, 785-462-6281.

[Waldren](#)

STRENGTHENING CLUBS

Strengthening 4-H Clubs I and Strengthening 4-H Clubs II

Back by popular demand, we will be offering once again Strengthening 4-H Clubs I and Strengthening 4-H Clubs II as professional development opportunities on May 12, 2009.

Strengthening 4-H Clubs I will be held between 9:30 AM-3:30 PM at the Extension Office Conference Room in McPherson. Any staff member or Key Volunteer is welcome to SC I. Do you need new resources to train your club leaders? Please join us as we focus on providing resources to strengthen 4-H clubs. The purpose of the training is to strengthen your capacity to work with volunteer adults and youth to develop and support strong, effective clubs. The session will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:15 p.m. Participants will receive a notebook of resources and ideas to share with your club leaders. If you have questions about SCI contact Diane Mack (dmack@ksu.edu) or Beth Hinshaw (bhinshaw@ksu.edu).

Strengthening 4-H Clubs II will be held in Salina between 9:30 AM-3:30 PM, at the Central Kansas District Extension, Salina Office, 200 W. Ash. You need to have already participated in SC I to enroll in SC II. The training will focus on creating the 4-H Club meeting as a place where members, leaders and parents are excited about learning! Strengthening Clubs II digs deeper into ideas of building a strong club leadership structure, involving all ages of membership, and learning to mentor club members. Participants will enhance their knowledge and skills for training and supporting local volunteers. For questions about SC II, contact Pam Van Horn (pvanhorn@ksu.edu), Deryl Waldren (dwaldren@ksu.edu) or Rod Buchele (rbuchele@ksu.edu).

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and the workshops will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Registration is available for either of these workshops through the 4-H Online system. Please register by May 1. SC I or SCII Registration for May 12, (materials, snacks and lunch) is \$25. Registration will be up soon at Kansas4-H.org.

Once you register for any of these options you will get a bill back by e-mail. We ask that you or your Extension Council pay

from that invoice.

[Hinshaw/Mack/Buchele/Van Horn/Waldren](#)

VOLUNTEERS

National Volunteer Week - April 19-25, 2009

The theme for National Volunteer Week, commemorated April 19-25, 2009 is "Celebrating People in Action." The theme captures the meaning behind this signature week – honoring the individuals who dedicate themselves to taking action and solving problems in their communities.

"Celebrating People in Action," presents an opportunity for individuals, families, nonprofit organizations and government entities alike to celebrate the ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things through service.

The 2009 National Volunteer Week will include several significant recognition events celebrating leaders in the field of service, including a reception on Capitol Hill honoring Senators Kennedy and Hatch for their efforts behind the Serve America Act and also an induction ceremony for the Extra Mile.

For more information go to: <http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/>

Volunteer Recognition Ideas

The National Volunteer Week has some cool ways to recognize volunteers. Here is the link:

<http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/recognize.cfm>

[Buchele](#)

North Central Regional Volunteer Forum.

It is not too early to be planning to attend the North Central Volunteer Forum next fall. It will be very close, as in Lincoln NE. The dates are Oct. 1 - 4, 2009. The theme is "Giving Them Our Best". Information is available at:

<http://4h.unl.edu/volunteers/forum.htm> Kansas will be hosting the Regional Volunteer Forum in the next couple of years.

Now is the time to check Forum out so you can help when Kansas hosts.

[Buchele](#)

VIP Tips

I have been writing the VIP Tips article for over three years now and am getting the feeling that I am repeating myself. If so, I apologize. VIP is an important step in the Kansas 4-H commitment to a safe learning environment for youth. It is important.

It does take some time and as with all prevention efforts, we may never know what (bad) did not happen as a result of our efforts. We just need know VIP is important and that what we do is valuable and important and feel proud of our accomplishments.

If VIP is not up to date in your Extension Unit, the best time to start is now and the best way to start is to start. If you wish help, please contact your Area 4-H Specialist.

[Buchele](#)

WORLD CITIZENSHIP

Host Families Needed for Norway 4-H Members

This summer 21 Norwegian 4-H teens are planning to participate in the 4-H Exchange to the U.S. managed by the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs (S4-HIEP) of which Kansas is a member. As of this writing in mid March, Kansas has submitted just one family's application and more are still needed. The teens are active 4-H members, and their national leaders would like them to have the opportunity to participate in major 4-H activities such as camp or fair during their stay between July 1 and July 30. We encourage Kansas 4-H families with teens to apply. We anticipate those coming will be in the 15-18 age group. Families with interest can obtain an information flyer about hosting, the host family application, and Confidential Reference form on the State 4-H web site [World Citizenship](#). Call or write Mary Kay Munson for information 785-238-3631/ munsonm@ngks.com. We still need several hosts for IFYE Representatives at least mid June-August as described in the March Tip Sheet. Contact Munson for information.

[Munson](#)

Kansas Outbound Delegates and Chaperone Confirmed for Exchanges

We have received official confirmation that all Kansas outbound exchange applicants under the S4-HIEP have been approved for their first choice of countries. Our chaperone applicant was also approved. (One IFYE Representative approved by Kansas in December has dropped out of the program.) The country destinations, dates and the delegates approved are as follows:

Japan 8-Week Exchange, June 11-August 6
John Boyington, Phillips-Rooks District
Steven Buchele, Finney County
Kimberly Gerstner, Thomas County

Finland Exchange, June 13-July 14
Veronica Hart, Miami County
Elizabeth Mercer, Cherokee County
Sarah Tajchman, Geary County

Costa Rica Exchange, June 20-July 18
Genevieve Stambaugh, Miami County

Japan 4-Week Exchange, July 8-August 6
Kenna Baker, Yukon County, OK
John Stambaugh, Miami County
Ronald Sullivan, Miami County
Cheri Tajchman, Geary County, Chaperone
[Munson](#)