

Geauga County 4-H



News & Notes

January | 2018

Club & Membership Guideline Reminders

As you start to gear up for the 2018 4-H Year, please be aware of the following:

1. All new volunteers must have completed the OSU Volunteer Screening Process and been approved by the Extension Office before they are able to act in the capacity of a 4-H Volunteer.
2. Clubs must have a minimum of 5 members from 3 different families. Members are defined as youth age 8 (as of Jan 1) and in third grade or any youth age 9 or above regardless of grade level. *Cloverbuds cannot be counted towards the minimum membership requirement.* This is a Club Charter requirement.
3. As the Extension Office receives new member inquiries, we suggest they attend meetings of at least 2 different clubs to see what the best fit for their family is before deciding on a club to join. If you are looking for more members or your club is at capacity, let us know as this will help us in assisting new families.
4. Livestock Clubs – please familiarize your club members with ODA’s new 45 Day Rule. 2018 QA Packet is now available.
5. The New Ohio 4-H Age-Grade Policy goes into effect January 1, 2018.

ADVISOR AREA

Club Packet Pick Up – Tuesday, January 16th during normal hours AND 4:30-6:00pm. Please bring your club’s Yearly Financial Summary at this time.

We are attempting to reduce the number of meetings volunteers must attend; therefore, there will be no Annual Update Mandatory Meeting in 2018. Instead, clubs may pick up their club packets at the Extension Office on the designated date. However, several new things are in place to make sure clubs are receiving the necessary information.

1. Each club packet contains the regular Yearly Update information. Club advisors must read over this information and sign off on the “4-H Update” form acknowledging that they have read and understand all information, changes, and rules. Every advisor in the club must sign the form then submit it with enrollment materials by April 15th.
2. Fulfilling OSU’s mandatory Child Abuse Training. Advisors who have attended OSU’s training in person in previous years will need to sign off on the Standards of Behavior Child Abuse Policy and submit it to the Extension Office with your regular enrollment form. This is the same policy advisors have signed in the past. All forms required will be in the club packets. NEW volunteers must attend an OSU Child Abuse Training in person. Any volunteer, regardless of years of service, may attend a training as a refresher and will receive a training credit. Volunteers who only sign the paperwork will NOT receive a training credit.

NEW - Advisor Social

February 1, 2018 – School Building

Join your fellow advisors as we reflect on the successes and struggles in 2017 and our excitement for 2018. Clubs can share their point of prides, community service actions, and network with other volunteers and clubs. Bring your best ideas and a favorite dessert to share. Please RSVP by January 26th.

The Advisor Social is NOT mandatory. Volunteers in attendance will receive a training credit. No 2018 club packets will be distributed at the Advisor Social.

Ohio 4-H Conference

March 10th

The 2018 Ohio 4-H Conference will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center on Saturday, March 10, 2018. The event is designed to bring together 4-H volunteers and teens from across the State of Ohio. The objective of this event is to learn together and from each other in order to improve our abilities to deliver the Ohio 4-H Program to its members. Educational selections offered at the conference offer something for everyone and have the ability to satisfy every taste and need. Over 150 sessions to choose from including QA Training for youth and the mandatory Child Abuse Training for all volunteers.

Registration deadline for Geauga County volunteers and members: **February 2, 2018**. Registration form and payment must be at the Extension Office by 4:30pm on Friday, February 2. Cost \$35 Visit <https://ohio4h.org/events/ohio-4-h-conference> for complete registration materials.

**** The Geauga County 4-H Advisory Committee will be sponsoring 7 volunteer and 7 youth scholarships for attendance at the Ohio 4-H Conference. Scholarship will cover the \$35 fee and is a first come, first serve basis. Complete registration form must be submitted to the Extension Office by 4:30pm, February 2 to be eligible.*

2018 Potential 4-H Volunteers

Anyone interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer for the 2018 year must complete the entire screening process (application, references, BCI, and interview) by **March 31, 2018**. Volunteer applications are available at www.geauga.osu.edu

***NEW in 2018** – Any new volunteer must have a letter of support from the head advisor in the club they wish to join. This can be as simple as an email to the Extension Office and will confirm the club will accept the potential volunteer. There is no specific form for the head advisor to complete.

New Volunteer Orientation & New Volunteer Child Abuse Training - March 29th at 6:30pm at the Geauga Extension Office

Club Information for Website

It's time to review and update your clubs information on the website. Please review what's currently online and complete the attached form titled **Club Information Form** and return it to the Extension Office at your earliest convenience with any changes. The information you provide will be used to update the club page on the OSU website geauga.osu.edu. If at any time a club would like to change the content on their club page, the club would just resubmit a new form and the information will be updated.

<https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/geauga-county-4-h-clubs>

4-H Horse Committee Fundraiser Dinner

February 24th – Fowlers Mill

The Geauga County 4-H Horse Committee is holding their annual fundraiser dinner and silent auction on March 24, 2018 at Fowlers Mill Golf Course in Chesterland. The fundraiser benefits all youth participating the county 4-H horse program. Funds are used to host educational clinics, run horse shows, provide show ribbons, year-end awards, etc. Tickets are \$40 each and are only available in advance. If interested in purchasing a ticket or donating a silent auction item, please contact the Extension office or committee president Cyndi Moschella. See flyer for complete details.

Quality Assurance Planning Committee

Any volunteers interesting in helping plan and organize this year's QA are invited to be a part of the 2018 QA Planning Committee. The committee will meet on February 7, March 7, and April 11 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office. Interested volunteers should notify the Extension Office by January 31st.

Make-Up Project Judging Tests – Animal Projects Only

We are looking to update the make-up judging tests. Please submit any questions you'd like to be considered for the tests to the Extension Office by March 1st. All questions must be multiple choices and contain 4 possible answers. All submissions should be submitted electronically via a Word Document.

Updating Project Judging Score Sheets

Any species wishing to update their score sheets must do so by March 1st. Our goal is to have all score sheets available for youth to study much earlier than in years past. Please submit any new score sheets to the Extension Office via a Word Document by March 1, 2018.

Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Newsletter – Sign Up

Ohio 4-H Cloverbud Connections has been a resource for 4-H volunteers and Extension staff since the 1990's. The newsletter started as a print version and later transitioned to a blended online and printable resource. The quarterly resource has grown to include a variety of Click it, Print it, Do it activities that are easily accessible and readily available for volunteers. The editors are pleased to announce a new format that will allow readers to subscribe to the site and receive an email notification when new posts are added. The site is searchable by key words and topic to help readers find content. New posts will be added monthly rather than quarterly in the previous format. The new format will continue to provide a unique blend of education, activities, and fun to build and challenge 4-H Cloverbud Volunteers teaching kindergarten through second grade youth. Follow this link to visit and enroll - <http://u.osu.edu/cloverbudconnections/>

CLUB NEWS

Ohio 4-H Club/Affiliate Yearly Financial Summary

Due January 31, 2018

All 4-H clubs and affiliates (committees) are required to submit a Yearly Financial Summary by January 31st. Club financials will now be reported based on each calendar year's bank transactions, January 1st - December 31st of each year. Clubs may elect to complete the form in two ways. 1) Submit the Financial Summary online using the instructions accompanying the summary. 2) Submit the Financial Summary in hard copy form to the Extension Office. The Extension Office will then submit all club summaries to the State Office as required. Each club's Organizational Advisor should have received the necessary information and forms that were included in the Annual Update packet. Additional copies are available on the website or by contacting the Extension Office.

Electronic version is available at <https://ohio4h.org/volunteers/volunteers/club-leaders/finances/clubaffiliate-yearly-financial-summary>

4-H Showcase

March 3, 2018

The 2018 4-H Showcase event will be held Saturday, March 3 from 12:00pm – 3:00pm at the Bond Building at Burton Century Village. Clubs are invited to set up a table that exhibits and showcases your clubs projects, community service activities, etc. Tables and chairs will be provided. Club should provide items for their display – table cloth, handouts, a game or activity for participants. No animals are permitted at the event. Snacks and refreshments will be provided courtesy of the Geauga County 4-H Advisory Committee. Tables will be assigned to clubs so please register your club by February 28th.

4-H MEMBERS

4-H Fashion Board Applications

Members interested in joining the 2018 Fashion Board should complete an application and submit it to the Extension Office by January 31, 2018. Members must be at least 12 years old (as of Jan 1, 2018), have previously completed two years of clothing or textile projects, and carry a clothing project while serving on the board.

4-H Teen & Older Youth Opportunities

Ohio 4-H offers a wide range of state and national level opportunities for active members. Interested in traveling to Washington, DC and learn about the history of our nation? Maybe you'd like to work alongside the State 4-H leaders and serve as an advocacy for 4-H and youth issues. How about traveling internationally or being a host family? These are just a few of the opportunities older youth can choose from. For a complete list see the "Teen & Older Youth Opportunities" attachment and contact the Extension Office with any questions. *Opportunities Include: 4-H Ambassador, CWF/LWF, Ohio State Junior Fair Board, 4-H Teen Council, Ohio Youth Capital Challenge, Buckeye Leadership, various camp counselor positions, and scholarship/achievement opportunities.* <http://www.ohio4h.org/families/just-teens>

Geauga 4-H Cloverbud Camp – Mark Your Calendars

Join us for two full days of fun at Cloverbud Camp. While the details are still in the works, here's what we know:

When: July 12 and 13

Where: Camp Burton, 14282 Butternut Rd. Burton, OH

Times: 8:00am – 5:00pm (not an overnight camp)

Meals: Morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack

Activities: Swimming, crafts, nature walks, games, and much more

Cost: TBD

Cloverbud camp is limited to 20 campers.

Stay tuned for more information. Any volunteers/4-H members (14 and older) who are interested in helping out at Cloverbud Camp should contact the Extension Office.

MXC – Making eXtreme Counselors

February 17-18, Columbus

Older youth age 14 to 18 who plan to serve as camp counselors are invited to participate in Making eXtreme Counselors (MXC)--an interactive and quick-paced training that offers innovative camp ideas to new and veteran camp counselors. MXC participants will leave with skills that will enable them to assist in their county's camp program planning and delivery, and prepare them to deliver a great camp program to their campers.

MXC is a national award-winning workshop that will be useful for all potential camp counselors. Don't miss your chance to participate—the event will be offered once in 2018, during the weekend of February 17-18. MXC will be held at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on the campus of The Ohio State University. Counselors will earn camp counselor training hours while attending this event (number of hours is determined by county). All participants will receive a take-home kit of supplies. They also will be able to share and gain ideas with teens from other counties all across the state. Cost: \$50. See attached flyer for more details. Registration is due to the Extension Office by January 30th.

Geauga County 4-H is offering a \$50 scholarship to the first 5 youth who register for this event. Contact the Extension Office for more information and registration materials.

EERA NEWS

Volunteer Development Training

January 29th – Ravenna High School - 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Volunteers and 4-H youth are invited attend the multi-county trainings. Participants will attend two workshops or complete their new volunteer orientation requirement. This event is free to all 4-H volunteers and members.

Must register with Portage County Extension Office by January 25th

DATES TO REMEMBER

January

- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Office Closed
- 16 **2018 Club Packet Pickup – Normal Hours & 4:30-6pm**
- 29 Camp Counselor Interviews
- 30 MXC Registrations Due
- 31 **Club Financial Summary Due**
Fashion Board Applications Due

February

- 1 **Advisory Social**
- 17-18 MXC – Columbus, OH
- 24 Horse Committee Fundraiser Dinner

March

- 3 **4-H Showcase**
- 23-24 Counselor Camp Overnight On-Site Training
- 29 New Volunteer Orientation & Year One Child Abuse Training

Mark Your Calendars - 2018

- February 1 Advisor Social
- March 10 Ohio 4-H Conference
- March 29 New Volunteer Orientation (includes Year One Child Abuse Training)
- March 31 New Volunteer Screening Deadline
- April 1 Early Enrollment Deadline
Cross County Request Deadline
- April 15 Enrollment Deadline
- May 5 Quality Assurance
- June 17-23 Geauga-Trumbull 4-H Camp
- July 12 & 13 Cloverbud Camp
- July 21 Project Judging – Livestock & Miscellaneous

We gratefully acknowledge the continued help and financial support of our Geauga County Commissioners;
Walter Claypool, Tim Lennon, and Ralph Spidalieri.

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