**IMPORTANT 4-H DATES**

**October**
1  Club Secretary Book Due
   Club Treasurer Book Due
   Award Nominations due
   Volunteer Trainings Due

**November**
25-26  Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed

**December**
24  Happy Holidays – Office Closed

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**A word from Alisha...**

Congratulations to all Geauga County 4-H members, parents, and volunteers on completing another great 4-H year! Our hope is that you learned something new and made every lasting memories. Share your 4-H story and/or photos with the Extension Office. We’d love to share them on the Geauga 4-H Facebook page.

As we wrap up the 4-H year and celebrate all the wonderful accomplishments, I want to thank everyone for their flexibility over the past year as we continued to deal the changing landscape.

This edition of the newsletter contains several areas for feedback and opportunities to become more involved. Everyone is encouraged to share their thoughts through the upcoming survey and/or join the Advisory committee. As with all things 4-H, we do our best to give our members, volunteers, and clubs as much information and support possible so that they can do impactful work. Can’t find the answer to something? Have a new idea? Let us know and we’d be glad to help.

Yours in 4-H,

Alisha Faudie
4-H Extension Educator
Volunteer Information

Update- Volunteer Trainings
OSUE and 4-H was virtual through June of 2021. This made it difficult for our volunteers to attend professional development trainings. Therefore, volunteers who were unable to complete their additional training for 2021 will not be penalized. There are several online volunteer trainings available on the website if interested.

Please note that starting 2022, Ohio 4-H has implemented a new 4-H volunteer training requirement.

Ohio State University 4-H Volunteers have an outstanding reputation for their commitment to the development of our youth. In order to maintain this outstanding reputation, Ohio 4-H volunteers shall continue enhancing their skills to ensure all 4-H participants have a positive and educational experience by annually attending additional youth development training opportunities. This requirement will be implemented in 2022.

On an annual basis beginning in 2022, to remain active and in good standing for the upcoming 4-H year, all current Ohio 4-H volunteers:
- Must participate in trainings covering at least one topic from each of the volunteer competencies.
- Each of these topics must be a minimum 30 minutes for a total of no less than an hour, with the best practice being a total of 2 hours.
- These trainings may be offered consecutively at one event or multiple events.
- These trainings are required in addition to the Ohio State University Extension Recognizing & Reporting Child Abuse (Policy 1.50) training.

2022 Program Survey
Within the next few weeks all volunteers will receive a Geauga 4-H program survey via email. We ask that you take a few moments and complete the survey to help us plan events and opportunities for 2022.

4-H Advisory Committee Open Recruitment
The Geauga County 4-H Advisory Committee is comprised of a representative group of Ohio State University Extension Screened Geauga County 4-H Volunteers. The committee offers insight, review, and input for the operation and management of the Geauga County 4-H Program and helps guide the 4-H program direction in concert with state and national 4-H policy. The committee meets face-to-face on a monthly basis from October to April and may utilize email to conduct committee business. Open recruitment for committee membership takes place every fall. Interested individuals are invited to apply. Applications are due by October 31st

Selected individuals will be notified in writing. Clink on the link below to access the application or contact the Extension Office for more information.

https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5iny3iN1QM15YvY
2022 Potential 4-H Volunteers
Anyone interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer for the 2022 year must complete the entire screening process (application, references, BCI, and interview) by March 31, 2022. Volunteer applications can be submitted at New 4-H Volunteer Application or printed at www.geauga.osu.edu. Volunteer interviews will be conducted on Monday, December 20th and Monday, February 21st.

Member Information

Geauga Park District Equine Opportunities

Horseback Riders: Amish Buggy Training & Trail Ride
Saturday, September 25, 9:30 AM-1:30 PM at Swine Creek Reservation
Registration: https://reservations.geaugaparkdistrict.org/programs/?id=16421
Facebook event: https://fb.me/e/PUQgLvLM

Riders must trailer their own horses to the park. Helmets are encouraged. Please bring a shovel to clean up after your horse in the parking lot…thanks

Photo Contest Entries
Photo entries are available for pick up at the Extension Office. Please pick up all entries by September 30th.

4-H Club News

Congratulations
The Auburn Swine Club began the BJ Wells Memorial Award in 2013 in honor of BJ’s dedication to the 4-H Swine program. He was a member of the Auburn Swine Club for at least 13 years, he was Jr. Fair King in 2004, and became an advisor of the club. His passion was raising and showing pigs and he was willing to share this gift with his siblings, members of his club, and everyone that was interested, regardless of what club or county they were from. The award is open to all swine project members.
Thank you to club advisors who nominated members for this award! This years applicants were very well qualified as they have worked diligently on their own projects and have demonstrated their willingness to help other members. They have all “learned by doing” thanks to the dedication of many club advisors who guide these members “to make the best better”. Congratulations to Max Retych, the 2021 winner.

Member Recognition Certificates & Pins
Those clubs who would like member achievement certificates (to recognize a member’s years in 4-H) and corresponding pins, should place their club order with the Extension Office by September 30th. Certificates and pins, by club, will be available for pick up at the Extension Office. To be eligible, members must have completed their yearly 4-H requirements (project judging, QA, etc.) and volunteers must have completed their trainings.

*There is a limited supply of Membership Pins. Pins will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis until gone. Additional member pins will not be ordered.
Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign: October 6-17, 2021

TSC continues their partnership and support of 4-H with the Paper Clover Campaign. This fall's dates are set for Oct. 6-17. TSC store and regional management are extremely committed to partnering with 4-H on the local level to raise the visibility of our program and garner customer donations that advance positive youth development.

Contribute during our 2021 fundraisers by:
1. Donating in store at the register. Click here for the store locator.
2. Donating online at checkout when making a purchase on tractorsupply.com. (Donations will be assigned to states based on the shipping location).
3. Donating by phone when you call TSC Customer Solutions at 877-718-6750

All funds the Geauga County 4-H Program receives from the Paper Clover Campaigns are used to provide full camperships for Cloverbuds to attend our Cloverbud Camp in July.

Thank you for your support!

2021 Recognition Awards

Volunteer Recognition Awards

Below is a general description of the awards that will be presented at the Recognition & Appreciation Ceremony. Nomination forms are available online and are due by October 1st. Volunteers must be in good standing and have completed their volunteer training requirements by Oct 1st to be eligible. Previous award winners are not eligible to receive the same award multiple times. https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/member-recognition

- **Clover Key Award** – The KEY to 4-H growth lines in new, committed, and creative leaders. This award recognized leaders with service from 1-5 years who have provided outstanding service to 4-H and demonstrated a genuine passion towards the program and its ongoing success.

- **Leadership Development Award** – Recognizes a 4-H volunteer, with 5 or more years of service, who had demonstrated and displayed the ability to develop leadership in youth.

- **Meritorious Service Award** – This award honors an individual who has shown superior dedication to the 4-H program. Volunteers with 10 or more years of service, who have made a special contribution to or impact on the Geauga County 4-H program. The recipient of this award will have influenced the lives of 4-H members in a positive way and/or influenced the overall of the 4-H program.

- **Geauga County 4-H Hall of Fame Award** – The prestigious award honors an individual who had served in the 4-H program for a minimum of 15 years and has made significant lifetime contributions of service to the 4-H program.
Member Recognition Awards

Below is a general description of the awards that will be presented at the Recognition & Appreciation Ceremony. Nomination forms are available online and are due by October 1st, 4:30pm. In addition to each award’s eligibility requirements, members must have fulfilled all their 4-H project requirements to be eligible (met enrollment deadlines, completed project judging, QA [if applicable], met minimum attendance requirements, are in good standing, etc.). Awards requiring supplemental descriptions must be attached to the application – please print or type, illegible note cards will result in in disqualification. Only one member/club per application. See nomination forms for complete details. [https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/member-recognition](https://geauga.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/member-recognition)

- **Outstanding 4-H Member** (Replaces Outstanding Participation Award) - This award is to recognize youth who have exhibited outstanding participation across the 4-H program and who have worked to improve themselves and gain personal growth by learning new skills, gaining new knowledge, and participating in a variety of experiences in 4-H. Members are limited to one outstanding award. The Outstanding 4-H Member is awarded on an individual basis not on a species/project basis.

- **Gold Medal** - The Gold Medal Awards are used to recognize members who have shown outstanding effort, personal increase of knowledge and skill, and outstanding achievement in a General Awards category or project area. A 4-H member may only receive the Gold Medal award once per category or project area during their 4-H career.

- **Honor Club** - A 4-H Honor Club is one that incorporates the spirit of 4-H, as stated in the motto, pledge, and the eight elements of positive youth development, in its meetings, project work, and club activities. Honor Club recognition is a challenge to all clubs to set goals and work together to achieve those goals. It is *not* intended as a contest between clubs.

- **Cloverbud Award** – Recognize outstanding Cloverbuds at the yearly recognition ceremony. Only enrolled cloverbuds (age 5 and in kindergarten to age 8 and not yet in the third grade by Jan 1st) are eligible to receive this award.

- **Club Community Service Award** – This award will recognize a club(s) that demonstrated outstanding community service efforts for the year.

- **Geauga County 4-H’er of the Year** - Combines Ambassador Award and Girl/Boy of the Year. Applications should be completed by the member. Geauga County's 4-H'er of the Year is the most prestigious award given at the county level. It will be awarded to one individual, age 16 or older, who actively demonstrated their 4-H character in all of their activities and interactions. The member should be active in local 4-H activities and demonstrated leadership abilities at the local club and county level(s). Applicants should support and exhibit the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship, serve as an Ambassador to 4-H, and live to “Make the Best Better”.

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2021 Awards Ceremony
The Extension Office and the Geauga 4-H Advisory Committee are working to see what this years Awards Ceremony will look like. Once details are confirmed, we will share the information with everyone.