



THE CLOVER CHRONICLE



Volume 6, Issue 1

Quarterly Newsletter of Alamance County 4-H

January/February/March 2014

Message from Erin



First of all I want to wish you all a very Happy New Year! I am so excited to be gearing up for my first full year of 4-H here in Alamance and so truly grateful

that all of you are on this journey with me. 2013 was a year of a lot of transition for 4-H both here in Alamance County and in the State of North Carolina as a whole, but through your hard work and dedication we are as strong as ever.

As we move into a new year, there will undoubtedly be more changes that come with me learning the ropes here in a new county and trying to do whatever I can to

live up to the 4-H motto "To Make the Best Better." My goal is not to shake everything up just for the sake of doing so, but rather to continue to build on the fantastic program that Beth and our 4-H Families have worked so hard on by making small adjustments here and there to ensure that we are providing the best experience possible.

If you ever have any questions, comments, concerns, or anything else to share with me, please rest assured that my door is always open. I hope that you will feel comfortable coming to me and letting me know what I can do to make sure that the 4-H Program here continues to thrive.

Best,
Erin

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Icon Key



=You can earn scholarship money for this



=This event/activity has a fee



=This is something you can put in your project book

Project Record Books & Achievement Plans



We have moved the due date for Project Record Books to **January 22nd** and Achievement Plans to **January 31st**. The forms for your Project Record Books and Achievement Plans can be found at the following website: <http://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/4-h-youth-development/>. Achievement Plans are listed under "Award Forms" and Project Record Books are listed under "Project Record Forms." Remember, your 4-H Age is how old you are as of January 1, 2013 (last year). You (the 4-Her) are completing this project for the year of 2013, so that's why it asks for your age as of Jan. 1, 2013. If you need help with either of these items, please contact Erin Bain (336) 570-6740 to schedule a time to come and meet with her individually.

Honor Club & College Scholarship Applications



If you are a 4-Her who is interested in applying for NC 4-H Honor Club and/or a 4-H College Scholarship, those applications need to be turned into Erin by **Friday, January 17**. The NC 4-H Honor Club is the highest honor a NC 4-Her can achieve and recognizes those individuals who have had an exceptional 4-H career. To be eligible to apply for Honor Club, 4-Hers must be at least 16 years old as of January 1 and have been in 4-H for 3 or more years. They must complete the application (posted on our website).

4-H College Scholarships are available to 4-Hers who are applying to college this fall. The application is posted on our website. There is also a Scholarship Guide posted online with details about each scholarship offered and eligibility requirements.

If you are a 4-Her who is interested in either of these items, please let Erin know and she will be glad to assist you in completing these applications.



Upcoming Events & Activities

County Council Meeting

The next County Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, **January 14 at 6:30 pm at May Memorial Library**. Please let Erin know by **January 13** if you plan to attend.



Blueberry Plant Sale Fundraiser



We will again be selling blueberry plants this February as a fundraiser for our county 4-H program. The proceeds from this sale will go towards 4-Her scholarships that you earn by participating in things like Project Records, Talent Show, etc. These proceeds will also help fund our county level events and activities. So be sure to talk it up! The deadline to order plants will be **Friday, February 14** and they will be available for pick up on **February 21**, from 10 am-3 pm and **February 24**, from 8 am-5 pm. The cost of the plants will be \$6 each, which is a great price! Varieties include: Climax, Onslow, Powder Blue, Premier, Tifblue, and new this year is Ira.

4-H Clover Spotlight (formerly 4-H Shines)

Alamance County 4-H Clover Spotlight will be held **Friday, February 21** at People's Memorial Christian Church at 7:00 pm.

This is a fun night where 4-Hers can showcase their many talents on stage or off. There will be talent acts and a fashion revue, and on display will be artwork entered by 4-Hers.

Anyone that participates will receive 4-H scholarship money. This is a great way for young people to express their creativity. If you plan to participate in the 4-H Clover Spotlight, you will need to submit your entry forms by **Friday, February 7**. If you are entering the fashion revue or visual arts, you will also need to submit your garments/artwork along with your entry forms. These items will be judged ahead of time. That way, you will be able to take your items home with you the night of the talent show.

Entry forms can be found online at: <http://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/4-h-youth-development/>.

Public Speaking Workshops:

Learn about Public Speaking from A-Z including: Choosing and preparing a topic, appropriate dress, using visual aids, and LOTS of practice and confidence building exercises.



Where: Alamance County Cooperative Extension Auditorium, 209-C N. Graham-Hopedale Road in Burlington.

When: Beginners: Monday, February 17th from 1:00-5:00pm. This class is great for youth who have never done a presentation before and are just getting started.

Intermediate: Wednesday, February 19th from 4:00-6:00pm. Youth who have done presentations before can still learn and practice!

Who: ALL 4-H Youth ages 5-18

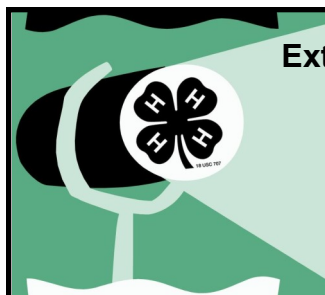
Cost: FREE - but Pre-Registration is required! Please visit: <http://go.ncsu.edu/publicspeaking2014> to fill out the online registration form or call our office at 570-6740 by **Monday, February 10th**!

4-H Presentations



The 4-H Presentations Program is our public speaking component of 4-H. This year, we will have appointments during the week of **March 10-14**, for 4-Hers to come to the Extension Office to give their presentations. All you need to do is call the Extension Office at (336) 570-6740 or email and we'll schedule you for an appointment! Please call by **March 3** to set up an appointment and get started on those presentations now!

Extension Centennial Spotlight



Alamance County Eli Whitney 4-H Club members, Charles & Bobby Griffin, giving a 4-H state presentation in 1960.



Upcoming Events & Activities (continued)

4-H Celebration Night



This year, we are changing up Celebration Night! Instead of Celebration Night being on a school night, we are going to try something new and have it on **Friday, March 14th at 6 pm** at People's Memorial Christian Church. We will provide the main dish and we ask that everyone bring potluck sides and desserts. This is the time of year we set aside to celebrate all of the accomplishments you have achieved in 2013. We will recognize our Project Record Book winners as well as 4-Hers who have completed another level in their Achievement Plans. Additionally, we will install our 2014 County Council Officers.

They are:

President--Sarah Kenney

Vice President--Elizabeth Kenney

Secretary--Courtney Eckmann

Reporter--Haylee Borden

Each 4-Her will be recognized during the Celebration and there will be an area set up for 4-H Club pictures as well as individual pictures. So make sure you dress nicely! An online invitation will be sent through email so be sure to respond. We want to make sure we have plenty of seating and food! Come celebrate your 4-H success!

Celebrate!

Teen Retreat



The North Central District will be holding Teen Retreat the weekend of **March 21-23**. At this point, there aren't many details that have been released, but Erin will send those out by email as she gets them. Teen Retreat is a weekend retreat for 4-Hers ages 13-18. At this retreat, 4-Hers will have the opportunity to attend workshops, make new friends, develop leadership skills, and have lots of fun! Please let Erin know if you are interested in attending (and adults, if you want to chaperone, just let Erin know).

District Activity Day



District Activity Day (or DAD) is the district level of 4-H Presentations competition. This is also the event where our top two talent acts are showcased. This year, DAD will be held on **Saturday, April 12** at Central Middle School in Dobson, NC (Surry County). More details will be sent out closer to the date.

Youth Livestock Events



- **Livestock Judging in January**—January 27, 2014 *We will have 2 junior teams and 1 senior individual competing!*
- **Nance Family Meat Goat Leadership Institute**—February 8, 2014 *Application Process*
- **Perry & Doris Teeter Beef Leadership Institute**—February 14-16, 2014 *Application Process*
- The Central Piedmont Junior Livestock Show will be **April 9-10, 2014** at the Orange Grove Barn in Hillsborough. Plans are currently underway and updated information will be posted online as it becomes available at: <http://orange.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/4-h-youth-development/>.

For more information, contact Lauren Langley, Livestock Agent for Alamance and Orange Counties, lauren_langley@ncsu.edu or (336) 570-6740.

4-H Camp@ Betsy-Jeff Penn



This year, Alamance County 4-H will be camping at Betsy-Jeff Penn in Reidsville, NC. We will be camping the week of **July 20-25**. We have 20 spots (10 boy, 10 girl),

so if you are interested in your child going to camp, please let us know by **February 14**. A \$50 deposit is required to hold your spot. Camp is for boys and girls ages 8-12. If you have a 13-14 year old that wants to camp, they can attend as an Adventurer or Trekker.



4-Her Reports & Updates

State Council Conference by Sarah Kenney



Elizabeth, Alex, Sarah, and Haylee
at State Council Conference.

State Council Conference was such a cool 4-H event to attend! It really was like a mini Congress. I was able to attend with Alex, Haylee, Elizabeth, Mrs. Beth, and some Person County 4-Hers. It was great getting to know other 4-Hers in my district and I had a great time watching the NC State basketball game! The workshops were great and I was so proud when North Central District won the Spirit Stick Award. It was truly a fun experience and I recommend going to it next year.



National 4-H Congress by Elizabeth Kenney

For five days after Thanksgiving, fourteen fellow NC 4-Hers and I were fortunate for the opportunity to go to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. We traveled by airplane and had to ride up a seven story escalator to get to our hotel! We stayed at the Hyatt Regency Hotel (which by the way was huge). At Congress, we got to listen to some amazing speakers which one was Miss America 2013 and another was a holocaust survivor. Additionally, we participated in many workshops where we were able to meet with other 4-Hers from all around the nation. Some exciting events we took part in were we toured the Coca Cola Museum, went up to the 72nd floor in one building, and also toured the Atlanta History Museum. We also had an International Dinner and Dance and a National 4-H Congress Gala. Like all 4-H events, the food at National 4-H Congress was awesome and it amazed me how they were able to serve so many people. Overall, National 4-H Congress was a once in a lifetime event that was so much fun and I am so thankful for all of the adult volunteers who spent their time with all of the NC 4-Hers.



Wreath Sale Update

We had a great Wreath Sale! Alamance County 4-H sold 64 Fraser Fir Wreaths and 24 Boxwood Wreaths. Our total profit was \$836, which will go to our scholarships and county programming. Those 4-Hers who sold wreaths earned \$5 for every wreath they sold. A total of \$275 was earned by our 4-Hers. Thank you for your support of our 4-H program in Alamance County!



4-H Agent, Erin Bain, with youth participants at the Cards & Cookies Event on December 7 at the Extension Office.

Cards & Cookies Update

On **December 7**, Alamance County 4-Hers came together to decorate Christmas cookies and make Christmas cards as a way to “give back” to our community. There were 119 bags of cookies (476 cookies in all!) donated to the Allied Churches homeless shelter and 33 decorated cards donated to Alamance Community Services. This marks 6 years of Cards & Cookies in Alamance County, and it’s a great way for our youth to learn about giving back, although it’s hard to resist eating those yummy cookies! If you are completing a project book and attended Cards & Cookies, be sure to include it in your Community Service section!

4-H Leader's Corner

Volunteer Leaders Conference: "Reconnect, Recharge, Reboot"

The Volunteer Leaders Conference is a great training opportunity for our 4-H Club Leaders and will be held **January 31-February 2** at the Sheraton Imperial in RTP. This is a weekend conference, but you can choose to go only on Saturday if you wish. There are many exciting and useful workshops to choose from and Alamance County 4-H will even pay \$50 of your registration! The registration deadline is **January 17** and **you must register on your own at this link:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1O-v87AJcotqzPQHnzkZmr3cfZdY3AgiwRTCUh0ZxS4/viewform>

Spring Leader Meeting

The next Leader Meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 11** at 6:30 pm at the Extension Office in the auditorium. Dinner will be provided at no charge, and all 4-H Club Leaders are asked to attend. To be an official 4-H Club, leaders must attend at least two (2) trainings throughout the year. This is a great way to fit that in as well as the Volunteer Leader's Conference—they each count as one of those trainings. This meeting will last no more than 2 hours. Club leaders, please add this to your calendar. If you are unable to attend, please designate another parent from your club to come in your place.



Cooperative Extension's Youth Development Program

Alamance County 4-H

209-C N. Graham-Hopedale Rd.
Burlington, NC 27217
<http://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu>

Phone: 336-570-6740
Fax: 336-570-6689

JOIN THE REVOLUTION
OF RESPONSIBILITY

Cooperative Extension's Youth Development Program



Spotlight on Extension

4-H is just a part of Cooperative Extension. There are many other events and activities that go on in Extension. Listed below are a few that you might be interested in. Keep an eye on our website for more upcoming programs!

- **Cooperative Extension Office Closings:**

January 20, 2014—MLK Day

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day**—April 12, 2014,
8 am-1 pm, Burlington Fire Training Center
100 Stone Quarry Road Haw River, NC

- **2014 Horticulture Classes**—**THINK GREEN THURSDAY** classes

January 30, 10 am, Apple Tree Grafting

February 13, 10 am—Grapevine Pruning with Andy Zeman

February 27, 10 am—Fruit Tree/Berry Pruning

March 13, 10 am—Pruning Woody Ornamentals

March 27, 10 am—Composting

- **Locally Grown**—Looking for local farms and food in Alamance County? Visit our website for more information!

<http://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/agriculture-food/local-foods/>



Alamance County 4-H
HEAD. HEART. HANDS. HEALTH.



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