

San Carlos Eaton Hills 4-H

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Corresponding Secretary —
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ISSUE THREE

November 2007

<http://www.sancarlos4h.org>

Next General Meeting:

Nov. 20 at 7 pm,
Clifford School



President's Message

Hey Everyone!

I hope everyone had a great month. At the November meeting be sure to bring non-perishable food for our annual food drive, and an unwrapped toy for our toy drive. We particularly need toys that are appropriate for 12- to 16-year olds. Stick around if you want to be in the group photo that will be taken after the meeting.

After the photo, we will be making holiday cards to be handed out at a local convalescent center. I am really looking forward to seeing everyone!

Joanna Settles, President

**This month's theme: bring
canned food and a new,
unwrapped toy to donate**



Happy Thanksgiving!

CALENDAR OF DATES & EVENTS

Nov. 19	7 pm	County Council, Fox School, Belmont
Nov. 20	7 pm	General Meeting
Dec. 11	6:15 pm	Holiday Caroling
Dec. 18	7 pm	December General Meeting

Toy/Gift Drive at the November Meeting



No, November is not too early for a Christmas toy drive! The club is again collecting toys for St. Francis Center in Redwood City. St. Francis Center provides a variety of services for very poor families. At Christmas, the center's "Christmas Store" gives their client families an opportunity to select one or two toys for each child in the family. Often, the toys from the center's "Christmas store" are the only toys a child receives at Christmas.

The Junior/Teen leaders ask each club member to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the November general meeting. Well-made basic toys with lasting appeal, including soccer balls and other sports balls, small motorized toy vehicles, and dolls are always very popular. Good choices for teens include gift certificates from Redwood City stores, such as Target and Ross, which sell a variety of merchandise and are close to the neighborhoods served by St. Francis Center.

We've been requested to especially consider donating gifts for 12- to 16-year-olds, as they often don't have enough of these at the center. Please donate a gift that you would enjoy receiving.

... And a Food Drive, Too!

The Junior/Teen leaders also ask each club member to bring a nonperishable food item to the November general meeting for the club's annual Thanksgiving food drive. Club member's donations will be given to Second Harvest Food Bank. Please do not bring opened food containers or glass containers.



The most-needed food items include canned tuna, powdered milk, peanut butter (no glass jars, please), pasta, low-sugar cereals, 100% fruit juices in single serving boxes, meals in a can (stews, chili, soups), and food with pop-top lids.

Say "Cheese"!



At the November meeting, we will be taking a group photograph of all club members. The photo will be posted on the club website. We also use this photo in thank you notes to our supporters. Don't miss this meeting! Come prepared to smile!

Make a Holiday Card at the November Meeting

At the November general meeting, we will be making holiday greeting cards to give to the residents of the Carlmont Gardens Skilled Nursing Facility and Convalescent Home. Every club member is encouraged to contribute to a collective burst of creative energy and make at least one card. We will deliver the cards during our caroling event in December.

Registration Reminders

All Parents: Please consider becoming a registered volunteer. Registered adult volunteers receive liability protection for all 4-H sponsored events (such as driving for field trips, visiting the farm, etc.), and help ensure the safety of all our children.

Farm Parents: If your child plans to have an animal at the farm this summer, we strongly encourage you to register as an Adult Resource Leader. No child may be at the farm unless accompanied by at least one officially registered adult. That means that you and your child may not be alone at the farm (for a morning feeding, etc.), unless you are registered with 4-H. Take care of this important requirement before the spring animals appear!

All New and Returning Members: Registration closes at the end of December. Please get those forms and checks back to me as soon as possible. If you cannot find your forms, you can download them from the California 4-H website: <http://ca4h.org/4hresource/forms/index.asp>. I need the main form, the liability waiver, and the medical form.

Questions? Contact Robert Lewit, Club Registrar, at robert.lewit@gmail.com. Thank you!

Medical Form Reminder

Parents: Please remember to provide each of your child's project leaders with a separate completed medical form by the first project meeting. Forms can be found on our website www.sancarlos4h.org. (Look for the link at the top of the home page.) Be sure to discuss with the project leader any information that may impact your child's participation in project activities.

Project Leaders: Do not allow parents to drop off their child at your first meeting unless you have a completed and signed medical form in hand. You can print the forms from our website www.sancarlos4h.org. (Look for the link at the top of the home page.) Have some extra forms for parents to fill out. Look over the completed forms and discuss with parents any matter of concern (allergies, etc.) Keep a complete set of the forms with you at all project meetings. Bruce will give you a packet of completed forms at the November meeting, but you will still need some parents to fill them out!

Share the Holiday Spirit!



All club members and their families are invited to our holiday caroling event at Carlmont Gardens, a skilled nursing facility and convalescent home, at 6:15 pm on Tuesday, December 11. For the past few years, we have entertained residents in their recreation room and then strolled through the facility singing for the bedridden patients. Our audience was so appreciative that we have been invited back to sing again this year. Enthusiasm and a cheerful spirit are as welcome as singing ability at this event!

- What?** Holiday caroling!
- When?** 6:15 pm – Tuesday, December 11
Please be prompt! Our audience goes to bed very early. We'll be done by 7:15 pm at the latest!
- Where?** Carlmont Gardens, 2140 Carlmont Drive, Belmont
(Near Carlmont Shopping Center)
- Who?** 4-H members, parents, siblings, friends, and relatives!
Don't be shy! Wear those antlers, stocking caps, and Santa hats!

Leaders Needed

The Advanced Cooking and Gardening projects still need leaders! If you are at all interested in these projects, please call Julie Wong at 269-5096.

Calling All Acorn Hunters



While we are all preparing for the fall and winter months, keep your eyes on the look-out for large plump acorns. The San Mateo County History Museum is in need of plump acorns for their class projects this year.

They should be approx: 1-14" long and fat like your thumb (kid) or pinky (adult). Remember to leave some for our friends the squirrels as this is a major source of food for them over the long winter.

Bring your acorns to the November general meeting or drop them off at the Grimsby's house: 3407 Lodge Drive, Belmont.

Beginning Rabbit Project Report

Beginning Rabbits had our first meeting on November 7. We looked at several different breeds of rabbits and practiced picking up a rabbit. If you missed the meeting that's ok, I haven't received the official sign-up list and will be sending out emails for the next meeting.

Belmont 4-H has requested to have a joint meeting on Saturday, December 15 so that they can see some of our rabbits and learn about grooming and handling different breeds. They are also excited to see the new Lionhead bunny. Our members are encouraged to attend and bring their rabbits as well.

We will be meeting on the first and third Wednesday of each month unless there is a holiday. All members are encouraged to bring their rabbit(s) to practice showmanship and share breed and care information. Rabbits should be in a carry cage. Don't forget to bring the notebook you received at the first meeting; if you missed the meeting, you'll get a book at the next one. Meeting dates are as follows:

- November 7 and 21
- December 5 and 19
- Special Meeting Saturday Dec. 15 with Belmont 4-H from 1:00-2:30pm
- January 2 and 16
- February 6 and 20
- March 5 and 19
- April 2 and 16
- May 7 and 21
- June 4

Meetings have been moved to Central Middle School, Room 14 from 6-7 pm. Snacks are provided. —*by Robin Nielsen*

Samaritan House Report

On Saturday, November 3, Peter, Maeve, Tristan, and I went to help with the Samaritan House food give-away. When we got there, there were tables set up in a long row. On the tables there was food sorted into groups of kinds of food. It was sort of like a grocery store. We were supposed to make sure the families got enough food but not too much for their family. I helped give away the eggs. When the people came to ask how many cartons of eggs they could take, I felt proud and important. It was a very fun experience! —*by Anya Knoth*

Beekeeping Report



We moved the hives from their summer spot to their winter spot. In the winter, the bees get the sunny spot that the sheep get in the spring. It helps keep the bees warm in the winter.

We put on bee suits so we wouldn't get stung. We checked the hives to see if the bees were healthy. We also tried to estimate how many bees were in the hive. We saw one bee doing the waggle dance. —by *Cale Hallamasek*

Forestry Project Report

The Forestry project met on November 6 and planned out our meetings. We all had input as to what we wanted to do. I think it will be a fun year ending with a sleepover. We have a total of 5 members. —by *Nik Grimsby*



City Council Report

I went to the Menlo Park City Council meeting with a group of other, younger 4-H members. We led the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H pledge. After we were finished, Mrs. Ferguson handed me a certificate and then continued with the meeting, but it felt like a privilege to be there. —by *Peri Wong*

New Members Get Surprised at Breakfast



Last Saturday was this year's New Member Breakfast. It was great to meet all the new members and spend time getting to know them. Because our club is getting so big, it is harder to get to know everyone. This was a great opportunity for the older 4-Hers to talk to younger members. The games were a lot of fun, and the food was great!

We also practiced the 4-H pledge, until we could all do it together. We hope that everyone had an amazing time; we certainly did. —by *Kathleen and Amanda Marsters*

Want to Find Out More About 4-H?

At the State and National Level:

Go to <http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/email/index.asp> and follow the directions on the screen. You have options to subscribe to several different lists.

At the County Level:

You can subscribe to Highlights, the San Mateo County 4-H monthly newsletter, online or through the mail. To receive an email notification when a new issue of the newsletter is available:

1. Go to this Internet address: <http://www.cesanmateo.ucdavis.edu/>
2. Click on "4-H Youth Development Program".
3. In the little purple box, click on "4-H Highlights".
4. Enter your email address in the box.

If you prefer to receive Highlights by mail, please call Marilyn Johnson at 726-9059, ext.106 or email mjohnson@ucdavis.edu with your mailing information.

Next Newsletter Deadline: December 13

Email articles to Betsy Parkhurst: betsyprus@sbcglobal.net