

San Carlos Eaton Hills 4-H

ISSUE THREE <http://www.sancarlos4h.org>
November 2009

Next General Meeting:
Nov. 17 at 7 pm,
Clifford School



President's Message

Dear 4-Hers,

Can you smell the turkey? Thanksgiving is on the way and **we've planned some great activities in 4H this month.** The theme of the month is "giving", and in the spirit of giving we will have our annual canned food drive and toy drive. Everyone is encouraged to bring to the meeting canned foods and an unwrapped gift to donate. Gifts for ages 12-16 are in high need so if possible, shop for those ages. After the upcoming meeting we will also have supplies available to make holiday cards for convalescent home residents.

I hope that everyone is having a great month. See you at the November meeting!

Jeff



This month:
Bring canned food and a new,
unwrapped toy to donate

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS

Nov. 16	7 PM	County Council Meeting, Fox School
Nov. 17	7 PM	November General Meeting
Dec. 1	7 PM	Farm Families Meeting
Dec. 8	6:15 PM	Holiday Caroling
Dec. 15	7 PM	December General Meeting

Club Officers

President: Jeff Wilfong

Vice President: Rebecca Lewit

Corresponding Secretary: Kathleen Marsters

Secretary: Kate Lyn Sutherland

Treasurer: Tristan Knoth

Sergeant-at-Arms: Andrew Bowler

Membership: Victorina Jeffers

Jr Farm Boss: Danielle Grimsby

Steering Committee

Bruce & Maeve Knoth – Community Leaders 654-4975

Susie Bowler 592-3569

Judy Grimsby 591-2212

Kurt Hallamasek 508-8798

Vicki Lewit 306-7884

Scot & Patty Marsters

Aida Paragas 208-6362

Michael & Danice Pons 508-9549

Heather Sutherland 349-9623

Lee Torno 415-452-3180

Vera Warrick 364-4773

Kathy Wilfong 366-3810

Winston Wyckoff 594-3939

Nancy Zalesny 593-2707

Julie Figliozzi Wong – Projects Coordinator 853-1305

Janae Novotny — Farm Manager 832-1799

Eric Grimsby — Farm Boss 591-2212

Robert Lewit – Webmaster
robert.lewit@gmail.com

Shelle McGee-Lucas – Newsletter Editor
straycatgt@comcast.net

Toy/Gift Drive at the November Meeting

Our club is collecting toys for St. Francis Center in Redwood City. St. Francis Center provides a variety of services for very poor families. **In December, 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** all year.



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 that 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 on December 8, 2009.

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 spring, 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 submit those forms and checks back as soon as possible. Please register online, and then give me a printed medical form and a \$45 check.

Questions? Contact Robert Lewit, Club Registrar, at robert.lewit@gmail.com or Aida Paragas at aidaparagas@hotmail.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.

Mandatory Meeting for Members Raising Farm Animals

Members who plan to raise a market animal (chickens, turkeys, goats, sheep and pigs) at the club's farm this 4-H year and their parent(s) must attend a farm families meeting on **Tuesday, December 1, 2009** at 7 pm in the Clifford School Library. This meeting is very important for the successful operation of the farm and a successful and enjoyable county fair experience for all of our junior livestock exhibitors and their families. We will be reviewing **members' animal project responsibilities at the farm and at the fair, as well as parents' roles and responsibilities**. In addition, the farm animal project leaders will speak briefly about their plans for their projects.

Members who cannot attend the December 1 meeting must contact Farm Manager Janae Novotny to schedule a make-up meeting. **A member and parent(s)' attendance at the December 1 meeting or a make-up meeting with the Farm Manager and/or Farm Boss is required before a member's farm use request will be considered for approval.**

Please remember that all farm use requests must be turned into Farm Boss, Eric Grimsby, or Farm Manager, Janae Novotny, before this meeting.

All members and parents who are interested in learning more about what is involved in raising a market animal and exhibiting the animal at the county fair are encouraged to attend the December 1 meeting, too.

Questions? Contact Farm Manager, Janae Novotny, at 832-1799 or janae.novotny@gmail.com.

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 8, 2009. 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 is always so appreciative and they invite us back every year. Enthusiasm and a cheerful spirit are more important than singing ability at this event!

- What?** Holiday Caroling!
- When?** 6:15 pm – Tuesday, December 8, 2009
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!

Want to Go to CAL (Creating a Leader Conference)?

4-H members in 7th grade and up are invited to register for the North Central Division Creating a Leader Conference at Walker Creek Ranch, Petaluma. It will be held from January 22-24, 2010. The North Central division includes Sonoma, Marin, San Mateo, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, Napa, Yolo, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Calaveras, Amador, and El Dorado counties. The cost is \$75 per person; last year the cost was \$140.

Registration materials are available in the county 4-H office. The registration deadline is November 27, 2009. For details, contact Maeve and Bruce Knoth. Each county in the North Central Section is allotted 15 delegate spaces. If there are more who wish to attend, the county may wait-list up to 5 applicants.

Successful leadership is best learned in two ways: by observing it in others and by trying it oneself. The CAL Leadership Team is composed of former delegates who are now in charge of planning and delivering the Conference. The overall focus of CAL Conference is to

provide a platform for youth leaders to share their joy, knowledge, and enthusiasm with their peers. The educational focus of CAL Conference is for delegates to enhance their techniques to demonstrate leadership in how they behave, in their attitudes, and in the words they choose to use.

YOUR CHANCE TO EARN SOME PINS FOR YOUR HAT!

Proficiency Tests are coming the the San Carlos Eaton Hills November meeting. Have you learned something about rabbits? Lambs? Chickens? Cavies? Goats? Steer? At the close of our General Meeting on November 17 you will have a chance to take county-wide animal proficiency tests. These are fill-in-the-blank, and true/false tests that give you a chance to show off your knowledge about animal care and anatomy. Please be prepared to pay \$1.00 for each test you want to take (there is no limit to the number of tests you can take). You might plan to take a test or two just for practice so next time we have proficiency testing you will know what to study. There are many 4H proficiency tests online (check the county and state links or just "Google" 4-H proficiency tests) if you want to prepare before the meeting. Good luck.

THE FARM IS UNDERGOING CONSTRUCTION!

Wow! Our farm is changing fast. If you attended the fall farm cleanup, you know that the pig pens have been torn down. Two weeks after that some hardy 4-H'ers learned how to wield a jackhammer as they assisted Eric Grimsby in breaking up the huge concrete pad that had been under the old pig pens. 4-H members and parents hauled thousands of pounds of concrete to the dumpster. Eric Grimsby spent another ten hours with an excavator digging trenches for plumbing and electrical wiring. Eric is accomplishing amazing things but needs our help. Think of this as your chance to learn some practical skills-remember one of the H's in 4-H stands for 'hands". If you have any time to donate on Saturdays in November or December, please contact Janae Novotny, Farm Manager, at 832-1799, or Eric Grimsby, Farm Boss, at 591-2212.

Volunteer of the Month

This month we have a parent leader of the month award. And the winner is..... Heather Sutherland!! She has been a part of the club since 2005 and has led projects such as Demonstrations, Cats, and now the club's new Community Service project. In addition to the work as a project leader she also runs the club's cookie and lemonade both at San Carlos Hometown Days. Also she runs the cake both for our club at the fair, and spends days baking and delivering cakes for as long as it takes. Besides being involved in 4-H she also enjoys drinking Eggnog lattes with her friends at Starbucks and taking care of the many animals she has at home. She likes to help people and animals in any way humanly possible. Heather works tirelessly to make the club strong.

-KateLyn Sutherland

Reports from Club Members

4H Farm Update

This month there has been a lot of changes going on at the 4-h farm. Many parent and kid volunteers have helped dig up concrete and improve our farm for this coming spring. The

pig pens have been completely demolished and will be rebuilt to be better than ever. The club has also rented an excavator to help lay down new electrical, plumbing, and drainage throughout the entire farm. These improvements should be completed by the time animals arrive. Thank you to all who helped to fix up the farm!

Danielle Grimsby
Junior Farm Boss

Fancy Cookies

On Sunday Nov. 8th we had our first fancy cookie decorating meeting. On Sunday we baked a few batches of cookies to practice getting them really flat. We learned a special trick to get them really flat. We did not get a chance to decorate any cookies but we also looked at a bunch of pictures of cookies to get ideas and to learn some of the techniques. We had a lot of fun and I am excited for the next meeting to actually decorate cookies!

Anya Knoth

Beginning 4H Project

This month we learned the 4H pledge. We also saw bunnies and turtles. We also played a game. I forget what it is called, but I know the rules are someone puts a sticker on your back and you ask yes-or-no questions to figure out what animal it is. Mine turned out to be an owl. Later, my humble readers!

Sofia Demers

2009 ARBA National Convention "The Endless Summer"

This past week, Oct. 30 - Nov. 5th, I was in San Diego for an ARBA National Rabbit Convention at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Early Friday morning, I woke up and rode down to San Diego with my friend Courtney Collins from Pacifica 4-H. When we first **got there, late at night, we checked in all of Courtney's rabbits and her friend Susan's guinea pigs.** There were over 3,000 rabbits in the youth section and even more in open. Then there were all the exhibition animals and the guinea pigs. **It wasn't as loud as a poultry show, which is what I'm used to because rabbits aren't as noisy as chickens.** Saturday was the youth competition day. There were events like Breed ID, Royalty and individual or team judging. Everyone had a Rabbit Standard of Perfection because you needed it to judge the rabbits by. The second half of the royalty competition was an interview contest which would help pick the final winners for lady, duke, prince, princess, king and queen. Courtney taught me how to judge a group of Himalayans because that is what she shows. I started out judging the black ones, then the blue ones and went for breed. I got a senior black doe for Best of Breed and a senior black buck for Best Opposite. Sunday was the first show day. Courtney, Susan and I got up early to go **prepare Courtney's rabbits and watch the other breeds be shown after we were done with all Courtney's Himalayans, we realized that the Himalayan show wasn't until the** next day. I watched the Havana show and I learned a lot from listening to the judge when she spoke about her placements and reasons. After I watched the show, I went to a Havana social for the Havana Club and met other people who raise Havanas. Finally, **it's Monday and we start off** the day early again to clean the rabbits, again. Neither Courtney nor Susan had anything they had to do at the show on Tuesday, so we took that day off and were complete tourists. Wednesday started out with a Havana Club meeting. I woke up early and rode to the fairgrounds with my boyfriend, Patrick and his mom and sister. After the meeting, there was a Havana auction where they sold Havanas. **I was looking for a rabbit, but I only had \$80, which wasn't enough seeing**

that the rabbits I bid on all went for over \$100. One doe sold for \$290. Instead, I bought a broken blue doe and bred her to a black buck. After the auction I went to a banquet and then to the beach. Later that evening was the youth banquet and dance. The awards for national husbandry and royalty were announced there and the rest of the night was spent dancing. The next day was checkout day. It was sad to leave San Diego, but I was anxious to get home and show my family my new rabbit. Her babies are due early December and they will be anywhere from solid blue and black to broken if anybody is interested.

Peri Wong

Air Rifle Project

We started the air rifle project with talking about loading, the prone position, pellets, and shooting. We were trying to shoot three pellets and the shots should be able to be covered by a quarter. I liked when we shot the rifle. **It isn't that heavy.** I made some good shots.

Lance Torno

Archery Project

We started the archery project by talking about range safety, the bow, the arrow, and loading. I liked the snacks that were there. We were divided into two groups. Sometimes we will go up to the range on the hill.

Lance Torno

Manga Art Project

The Manga Art Project met Sunday afternoon at the San Carlos Library, Nov. 8th. We learned that Manga wasn't just about drawing people but it was also about creating original characters and eventually creating stories about them. More experience kids helped others by giving demonstrations on drawing eyes or hair. Various Manga books were shared. Everyone had a great time!

By Isabella Paragas, Jr. Teen Project Leader

Want to Find Out More About 4-H?

Highlights, the San Mateo County 4-H monthly online newsletter, contains useful information about what's happening in 4-H county-wide. You can view the November issue of *Highlights* by going to <http://cesanmateo.ucdavis.edu/newsletterfiles/newsletter692.htm>.

You can also subscribe to *Highlights* on this page by typing your email address in the "Subscription E-Mail Address" box and clicking on "Submit".

Next newsletter deadline: December 8

Email articles to Shelle McGee-Lucas @ straycatgt@comcast.net