



MAY 2013

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Make the best better

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**Marin County 4-H
Newsletter**
Marin County 4-H
Youth Development Program
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<http://ca4H.org>

Mark your Calendars!

May

May 16 Deadline for most Marin
County Fair Entries

May 21 Council Meeting
6:00 P.M.
Pot Luck Dinner
4-H Office, Novato

May 25 State Field Day

June

June 1 West Marin 4-H Fair
Pt. Reyes

June 2 Western Weekend Parade
Pt. Reyes

June 9 Tri Valley BBQ

June 19-23 Sonoma-Marin Fair

June 30 4-H Year Ends
Time to do Record Books!

July

July 3-7 Marin County Fair

The newsletter is sent to all 4-H families with completed and approved registration. A digital version of the newsletter is available on our website. To discontinue receiving a paper copy, call the office at 415-473-4207.

Club News

Mill Valley 4-H Tours The EO Factory in San Rafael

EO, local manufacturer of completely organic, personal care products, hosted the Mill Valley 4-H club in a factory tour. 4-Her's got to see the creation of soaps and lotions from essential oils that are distilled from locally grown flowers and herbs. They even got to make their own creation to take home!



TRI VALLEY BBQ and SHOWMANSHIP WORKSHOP By Gavin Harding

The Second annual Tri-Valley Chicken Barbeque and Showmanship Workshop Day will have a delicious chicken lunch. The day will be held at the **Pomi Deer Camp at 5227 Red Hill Road, in Petaluma, on Sunday, June 9th, 2013, *starting at nine in the morning.*** There will be many fun activities and even practice showmanship for covies, rabbits, chicken, beef, and dairy. There is no pre-registration or fee required for exhibits, we just want everyone to come out, learn and have fun. Altogether it's going to be a load of fun and a very good time with friends. The Tri-Valley 4-H club invites you to come with friends and family and enjoy a day of good learning, teaching, eating and fun. Hope to see you there!



4-H Outreach

How's Your Spark?

All 4-H Members are invited to complete the year-end Sparks Scores in the 4-H Online Record Book.

Part of the 4-H mission is to continually contribute to the body of research around positive youth development. Sparks Scores is one of the ways we do that.

At the beginning and at the end of the 4-H year, we survey our members on a variety of things to see what can be done to make our program better.

What? You didn't do them at the beginning of the year? THAT'S OK! We still want you to do them now.

Log on to the Online Record Book (ORB) and look for the Sparks Scores Links on the right hand side.

For complete information on the Online Record Book, where to find it, and help logging on, please visit:

<http://ucanr.edu/recordbook>



Trees 4 You and Me

In April, the launch of a new workshop for students took place.

"Trees 4 You and Me" is an hands-on, interactive workshop for kids in grades 2-6. It was created in collaboration with Marin County 4-H and Janice Alexander, Marin Sudden Oak Death coordinator.

The workshop teaches students about different parts of the tree and the job that each one does. Working in groups, participants draw different tree parts and put them together on one tree collage that makes a virtual forest. They then review products that come from trees, threats to trees and learn ways to project them.

Each participant receives a Tree Steward card and commits to adopting a tree in their neighborhood or school to monitor and "protect."

The workshop is made possible by a grant from the USDA-Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station and has been delivered in two classrooms and one afterschool setting with many more to come.

To find out more, please visit:

<http://ucanr.edu/trees>

4-H members are welcome to learn about this workshop and how to teach it in their own clubs or communities.



Fairs are Around the Corner!

Mark your calendars with the dates of all the local Fairs that are coming up! AND... be sure to mark your calendars with the DUE DATES of your fair entries. How many times have you missed those! Don't let it happen this year!!

Fair	Dates	Entry Deadline
Sonoma-Marin Fair	June 19th—23rd	May 17th
Marin County Fair	July 3rd-7th	May 16th (Other dates for animal entries)
Sonoma County Fair	July 25th-August 11th	Guidebooks are available May 1st

Other dates may apply to animal entries or other competitions. Be sure to get a copy of the premium books for the fairs you are interested in and read them CAREFULLY!



Update Your PDR

Well look at that! It's already May! This is usually the time to talk about the PDR and ways to get it done!

For our newer families, the PDR is a part of the 4-H record book. It is the biggest part and takes the most time to fill out. It is really a list of all the activities that you do during the 4-H year, broken down by categories. 4-Her's are a busy bunch, and probably have done lots of things throughout the year. Some of those may be a little hard to remember. Here are some tips for getting your PDR in shape for your Record Book:

1. Check the family calendar. Odds are that most or all of your 4-H events have been written down there.
2. Look at past newsletters. Most newsletters have an "Update Your PDR" section and you can use this to jog your memory and find out where to put things. Don't have past newsletters? They are available online at our Marin County 4-H website at: <http://ucanr.edu/4h>
3. Work with you club leader. Your CCL or Record Book leader, if you club has one, has probably been keeping a master list of all the club activities.
4. Check out the state 4-H Record book page. It is full of information and help to complete you record book. Visit: <http://ucanr.edu/recordbook>

From the Staff

Marin 4-H Camp—EXCITING UPDATES!!

4-H Camp for July 14th – 20th is now
FULL

To accommodate our interested campers,
We have been able to add a second week of camp!

**The 2nd Camp Session will be
July 28th to August 3rd**

If you sent in your application for camp already, you
will be contacted by the camp clerk to either

1. Confirm you are in Session 1 or
2. Be offered session 2.

Families who have **not yet signed up** for camp may
certainly do so, and will be assigned to the second week
on a first come, first served basis. **You will be
contacted to confirm your child's enrollment.**

Please visit the Marin 4-H Camp website at:

<http://ucanr.edu/marin4hcamp>

to download your application.

For additional questions please contact the camp clerk,
Eileen Castelli at

Phone: (707) 996-0354

E-mail: Marin4HCamp@aol.com

Final Council Meeting of the Year May 21, 2013

The Marin County 4-H
Council will be having it's final
meeting of the year on Thursday,
May 21st. The meeting will begin at
6:00 P.M. with a potluck dinner,
followed by the business meeting.

Every club is required to
send a representative to at least
one meeting during the program
year. Also, any teen member or
parent is welcome to attend the
council meetings. It is a great way
to stay informed!

This meeting is also the time
to elect the council officers for the
coming year. Our officers are now
finishing their second year in term,
and need to hand over the "reigns."
One does not have to be a
Community Club Leader or a
Project Leader to be an officer.

Council meets every other
month, starting in September, and
forms the committees that lead the
programs our members enjoy.

Please consider serving!

This Newsletter is Presented by :

Jane Chin Young
4-H Advisor

Allison Keaney
4-H Program Representative

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