



DECEMBER 2016

Cloverleaflet

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!

DECEMBER

- Dec 21 Camp Committee Meeting
- Dec 26 Office Closed

JANUARY

- Jan 2 Office Closed
- Jan 12 Council Meeting
6:30PM
Marin 4-H Office
- Jan 13 Chipotle Dine & Donate
11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Northgate Mall
- Jan 16 Martin Luther King Jr.
Holiday—Office Closed
- Jan 18 Camp Committee Meeting

FEBRUARY

- Feb 15 Camp Committee Meeting
- Feb 20 President's Day
Office Closed
- Feb 25 Clover Day
- Feb 26 County Presentation Day

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.

December 2016: From the 4-H Youth Development Advisor, Steven Worker



Winter is Coming: And so too are winter holidays

The arrival of the winter solstice on December 21 brings with it a number of religious holidays such as Christmas and Las Posadas (Christian), Hanukkah (Jewish), Eid-al-Adha (Islam), and Diwali (Hindu), as well as cultural celebrations such as Kwanzaa (honoring African heritage) and the Luna New Year (Asian cultures), to name just a few.

A tradition of 4-H Clubs is hosting a winter holiday celebration during their December meeting. Celebrations – marking an important occasion by engaging in social activity – serves important developmental purpose like building emotional safety, strengthening a sense of belonging and connection, offering a time for reflection and goal setting, and commemorating achievements.

With the 4-H program stretching across California and open to all youth, regardless of religion or ancestry, 4-H Clubs are composed of families from many religious affiliations. The University of California has a strong commitment to inclusiveness reflected in 4-H core values of *appreciating and celebrating differences, practicing mutual respect, and fostering a sense of belonging*. 4-H Clubs are expected to be inclusive and sensitive to the cultural and religious practices of its membership.

While 4-H Clubs may find it easy to rename a celebration from “Christmas Party” to “Holiday Party,” ensuring inclusivity and celebrating differences must go beyond a simple name change. Here are a few examples to aid in planning inclusive celebrations.

- Host a multi-cultural celebration depicting a variety of holiday traditions with emphasis on the practices and beliefs of every family in the 4-H Club. Host an educational activity where youth and families share holiday traditions while a teen leader facilitates a discussion about how people celebrate in different ways and some people do not believe in any celebrations.

- Focus on celebrating a special occasion, instead of a specific holiday, perhaps by having a Winter Solstice Celebration or a New Year’s Party. Select activities, decorations, and foods that demonstrate cultural sensitivity and inclusivity by acknowledging multiple cultural traditions rather than imposing or endorsing a single tradition.

- Ensure that celebrations are not indirectly celebrating one religious holiday. Refrain from supporting one religion over another by not singing religiously affiliated songs or having decorations or games inspired from only one holiday.

- Clarify that all celebrations are voluntary. Families or 4-H members who decide not to participate in the celebrations should not be viewed negatively or penalized.

Families feeling excluded from 4-H Club celebrations are encouraged to talk with their 4-H Club Leader and discuss how their Club’s celebration might be modified to be more inclusive.

Volunteer Tools and Resources—Save the Dates!

A newly formed non-profit is focusing its mission on the support and development of volunteers who work with youth. Volunteers-4-Youth is offering a selection of workshops for volunteers to develop their skills in working with a variety of youth. Please mark your calendars. Information on registration will be forthcoming.

We listened to volunteer coordinators from ten prominent youth-oriented nonprofits this summer (our survey). Now it's time for action!

Volunteers-4-Youth is sponsoring three upcoming events that address three of your most pressing needs. **SAVE THESE DATES!**

- On Tuesday, January 17 from 3-5pm at the Marin County Office of Education, ***Mariana Lopez will address Cultural Sensitivity"***
- On Tuesday, February 28 from 4-6pm at Marin County Office of Education, ***Sandra Ramirez-Griggs will address What's behind Behavioral Challenges and How to Address Them."***
- On Tuesday, March 7 from 4-6pm at Marin County Office of Education we offer a screening of the film, for ***Paper Tigers, by the Marin filmmaker Jamie Redford*** (about how one high school has succeeded in working with at-risk youth).

Presentation Days—County and Area, 2017

It is not too early to begin thinking about Presentation Day!

Presentation and public speaking opportunities abound in our 4-H program, and provide our members with great skills that will help in all aspects of life. Most 4-H members have done some sort of presentation or communication at the club level. Maybe it was leading the 4-H pledge, or sharing the most recent work completed at a project, or perhaps it was a more formal presentation about a particular topic. At the county level, Presentation Day provides the opportunity to prepare and share some of the more formal presentation skills where the member can receive feedback and earn awards for his or her work. It is a great day where members from many clubs come together, share their knowledge, and have some fun.



Our 2017 County Presentation Day is February 26th at Vallecito School in Terra Linda. Members may want to use the winter break from school to begin thinking about their presentation and preparing their topics. Some clubs even have a Club Presentation Day in January to help members practice and get feedback before the county event. There is a presentation category for everyone! Some are short and simple, while some are longer and more involved. You can learn about all of them in the CA 4-H State Presentation Manual here: <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/2193.pdf>

Those who are eligible may advance to the Area Presentation Day. The North Bay Coast Area Field Day will be at the College of San Mateo on April 22nd. Applications are still open for the planning committees for this event! Interested volunteers, parents, and senior youth are invited to check it out:

Here is the link: <https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=19182>

Presentation Day lends its success to the quality evaluation and feedback that our members receive. We are always looking for volunteer evaluators to score presentations and give supportive balanced feedback to our members. If you have a recommendation for an evaluator, please email the 4-H office.

Regional News

Clover Day! An Exceptional Day of Volunteer Development and Sharing for our Adult Volunteers

Clover Day is a brand new event for 4-H volunteers in Marin, Napa, and Sonoma counties. Meet fellow leaders, share ideas and strategies, and learn from one another. Morning sessions will focus on ways to make 4-H activities more engaging, while the afternoon will be filled with project specific information.

Lunch will be an inspiring keynote with Dr. Temple Grandin.

**Clover
Day**

MEET, SHARE, AND LEARN
FOR 4-H VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Don't miss this great opportunity to network with other leaders and refresh your 4-H projects and clubs.

Learn more here:

http://cesonoma.ucanr.edu/Youth_Development/For_Project_Leaders/CloverDay/

4-H Shooting Sports Workshop Shotgun Discipline Visalia, CA

Saturday, December 17, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 18, 2016 – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

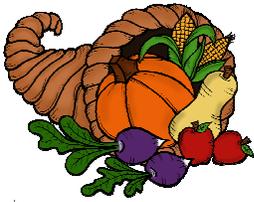


A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the shotgun discipline will be held at Tulare County Trap Club, 7394 Ave 328, Visalia. Participants must attend both days of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as shotgun volunteer and can lead a shotgun project at the club level. Cost for the course is \$15. Fee includes all training material, Saturday lunch and coffee each morning. To register for the course complete the 4-H Training Request and Registration Form, <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/4785.pdf>, 4-H Medical Release form, <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/210815.pdf>, and a check made payable to Tulare County 4-H Leader's Council. Mail registration forms and payment to Tulare County 4-H, ATTN: Shotgun Training, 4437-B S. Laspinna Street, Tulare, CA 93274. To receive more information contact Don O'Dell 559-972-4771 or donald.odell@farmcreditwest.com

Club News

Pt. Reyes-Olema 4-H Prepares Thanksgiving Dinner for the Community

This Thanksgiving season the Point Reyes-Olema 4H Club decided to continue with a long held tradition and give back to their community by helping prepare food for the local annual Thanksgiving Dinner. On the Wednesday before Thanksgiving half a dozen 4-Hers headed down to West Marin Community Services to aid with food preparation. In collaboration with the other members of the community, 100 pounds of potatoes and 80 pounds of sweet potatoes were peeled and cut; 22 turkeys roasted; 30 pounds of cranberry sauce, 50 pounds of broccoli and 40 pounds chards were prepared; and over 30 loaves of bread were turned into stuffing. Not to mention all of the eye-watering onions that were sliced and diced! Everyone worked for over two and a half hours preparing the food for the annual community feast. This year over 300 people attended and enjoyed the festive meal held at the Dance Palace the 4-Hers helped to prepare.



Tri-Valley November News

By – Lucas Cheda, Reporter

The Tri-Valley Arts & Crafts project group held a fun and creative meeting in November. With the help of their project leader, Barb Brooks, and Junior Leader, Logan Pomi, the group created personalized Fall/Thanksgiving themed table-scapes. Each table-scape includes a stained-glass-effect luminary jar, a place-card, and a mini-pumpkin. The luminary jars were crafted by Modge-Podge'ing squares of tissue paper onto a glass jar to create a stained glass effect. A tealight candle is placed in the luminary and the light shines through the glass. Each member designed their own turkey place-cards as well and grouped all 3 items on a plate. The table-scapes will be used as centerpieces for the Thanksgiving holiday. Our members are so crafty!



From the Staff

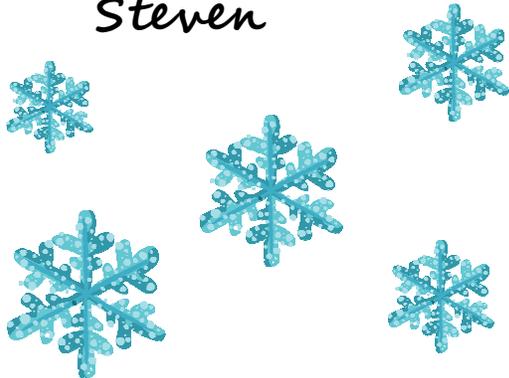
Happy Holidays!

Wishing all of our members, volunteers, and their families a wonderful holiday season!

Thank you for being a part of 4-H and working to make the best, better each and every day. It is a joy and a pleasure working with you all!

Here is to a happy and healthy 2017, hoping that all your dreams and aspirations come to pass.

Allison, Ana, and Steven



C.A.L. Conference Delegates

We are happy to announce that Marin will be sending three delegates to the 2017 C.A.L. Conference,

“V.I.P. Unlocking Your Rhythm of Leadership” at Walker Creek Ranch, January 27-29

- ◇ Morgan Boothe, Indian Valley 4-H
- ◇ Gavin Patchet, 4-H Camp
- ◇ Katie Shepardson, Indian Valley 4-H

We look forward to hearing about their experience and learning what they can bring back with them.



I pledge...

My Head 

To clearer thinking

My Heart 

To greater loyalty

My Hands 

To larger service

My Health 

To better living



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

#UCANR4H

For my club, my community, my country and my world.

This Newsletter is Presented by :

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4-H Youth Development Advisor

Allison Keaney
4-H Program Representative

Ana Medina
Enrollment

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