

Schoharie County 4-H

CHRONICLE

**March
2008**

A Publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie County

Tractor Driving Certificate Program Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 19

The 4-H Program will be offering the tractor driving certificate course beginning the week of March 24. Any youth who is between 14 and 16 years of age must complete this course to be legally employed on a farm where driving a tractor is required. This is a 24 hour program that will be held 7 weekly sessions. Each class will include driving instruction and practice, as well as some lecture and video instruction. The program also includes some self guided study. Students must pass a written test as well as a skills and driving test to receive their certificate.

Youth must be 14 years old to take this course. The cost is \$15.00 per youth. For registration or more information contact Eileen at the 4-H Office at 518-234-4303 or 518-296-8310.

CORNELL VET SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Saturday, April 12, 2008.

**Meet at 8 am at the Extension Center in Cobleskill
Registration deadline is Friday, April 4.**

Cost is \$5.00 per youth. We can transport 5 youth. Additional drivers will be reimbursed.

Activities! Students, faculty members, and staff will be on hand to answer your questions about a career as a veterinarian, a veterinary technician, or an animal care specialist. For those interested in applying to the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, as well as for those who just want to know more about veterinary education and careers in veterinary medicine, there will be admissions and veterinary career information sessions throughout the day.

Exhibits

- Learn how to milk a cow.
- Discover more about the anatomy of your pets.
- Watch students perform an ultrasound on a dog's heart.
- Dress up in surgical scrubs and have your photo taken as a veterinary surgeon.
- Visit Teddy Bear ER, where we will surgically repair your wounded stuffed animals with TLC.
- See a demonstration of our state of the art performance treadmill used to study orthopedic and cardiovascular diseases of horses.
- Watch as our expert farrier shoe a horse.
- Visit the petting zoo and play with baby farm animals

Call the 4-H office at 518-234-4303 to register or volunteer.!

4-H Club News

Please send Club updates and information to the 4-H Office by the 15th of each month. Email to: Schoharie@cornell.edu; mail to 173 s. grand st. Cobleskill, NY 12043 or fax to 518-234-4305.

Critter Fusion

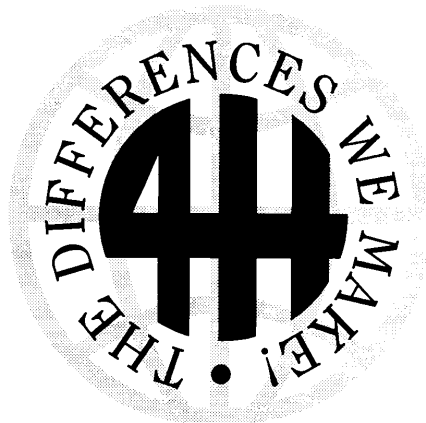
Work groups report the following meetings were held in January: Goats- Goat blankets were sewn and goat's milk fudge was made and devoured. It was a hectic night but a lot was accomplished. Beef Quiz Bowl questions were asked and answered. Some right, some wrong. Correct answers had their own sweet reward. Poultry –the parts of the chicken were practiced in preparation for summer showmanship. Many members were in attendance. Next meetings will be:

March 7, goat group to meet next at the Extension Center at 6:00. Making collars and studying the parts of the goat. March 14, beef meeting: Parts of the animal is planned - Extension Center at 7:00 March 21. Poultry meeting: Agenda TBD. - Extension Center at 7:00. April 11 is our next general business meeting at the Extension Center at 7:00. Plans made at our business meeting held February 8th. Lily Johnson was elected the new treasurer.

The club has decided to run a concession at the regional Dairy Quiz Bowl competition to be held March 8th at the Golding School.



Congratulations to all 4-H Afterschool members who presented projects to judges at the second annual winter sunshine fair. Afterschool members from Cobleskill exhibited clay projects, journals, inventions, recipes, and presented a drama skit. Members from Middleburgh exhibited piñatas, crocheting projects, and poetry.



Thundering Hooves

Hello Chronicle Readers!
Just wanted to let everybody know what our club has been up to and what we have planned for the upcoming months!
In our meetings we've been trying to plan trips and tours for our club (and other 4H members if they are interested) to go on. We are currently planning a trip to Springfield, Massachusetts, to go see the Parelli Tour, featuring Pat and Linda Parelli. Our club went last year and it was a incredible experience, so we are very excited to be going back! We are also trying to plan trips to different breed farms in the area, so far we have a Shire farm and a Icelandic farm! Our club just had a fun day in which we went snow tubing in Windham, I wasn't able to make it but everyone I talked to had a fantastic time! And of course, most of the kids in our club (and the parents!) have been busy with horse quiz bowl and we are all extremely excited for Regionals (study study study!). (A thank you to the parents for all the rides to meetings and for help with planning all these trips!)
Sincerely,
Emily Breitbach,
Secretary of the Thundering Hooves

4-H CAREER EXPLORATIONS

<http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/program/events/CareerEx.php>

Career Explorations at Cornell University

July 1, 2, 3

Cornell University

4-H Career Explorations connects teens to Departments and people at Cornell University in order to enhance career awareness, help teens gain leadership experience, and establish a network of 4-H friends from across the state.

Career Explorations has two programs: University U is for teens entering grades 8 and 9 in Fall 2008; Focus for Teens is for youth entering 9 to 12th grade. 9th graders must have already attended University U in order to attend Focus for Teens.

The full cost for 3 days is \$180 which includes room, board, and program fees. Full Scholarships and partial scholarships are available through the NYS Foundation. Partial Scholarships are available through the Schoharie County 4-H Office. Scholarships are competitive and should be submitted with registration materials as soon as possible.

Program Offerings: University U (grades 8 and 9)

Canine Science CSI, Construction Zone: Exercises in Engineering; the Museum of the Earth; Exploring an Art Museum, Forecasting Weather; Marvelous Materials; Hands on Mathematics; Plant Science in the 21st Century, Lost Ladybugs- Entomology Citizen Science.

Program Offerings, Focus for Teens (grades 9* to 12)

Birds, Technology and the Arts, Astronomy: Exploring the Solar System and the Universe; Digital Storytelling for the 21st Century, Finding Your Favorite Places Using GPS technology, Horses at Cornell, Savor the Flavor, Re-Fashion Entrepreneurs, Virtual Worlds for Research, Nanobiotechnology Workshop, Natural Resources: Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, Professional Dairy Career Focus, Self Awareness and Community Leadership, Engineering the Tools that Observe the Smallest Matter, Thinking Like a Scientist, Golf and Sports Turf Management: The Thrill of Grass, Touch a Life- Shape the Future-Teach, Veterinary Science Discovery, Working in a Globalized World, Food Science DNA Fingerprinting.

Registration Packets, along with a detailed program description are available from the 4-H Office. Completed applications must be returned to the 4-H Office by Friday April 11. One chaperone for every 4 teens is required. Contact the 4-H Office at 518-234-4303 or 518-296-8310 for registration forms and for chaperone details.



Join the Dog Club
Organizing Meeting Thursday March 13.
Humans of all ages are welcome but canines should stay home.

The Dog Club is reorganizing and looking for 4-H members who are interested in: Dog obedience, dog sports (such as agility or rally O), volunteering at the Animal Shelter or other activities that are related to dog. If you are interested, we will be holding an organizational meeting on Thursday, March 13 at 7pm at the Extension Center. Parents are welcome. If you are interested but cannot make this meeting, please call the 4-H Office at 518-234-4303.



Animal Crackers 2008
Saturday May 3, 2008, Cornell University
9 am – 3pm

The Annual Animal Crackers program will take place on Saturday May 3, 2008 at Cornell University. This year's topics are dairy cows and rabbits. The program is geared toward youth who are getting started with an animal project, usually ages 9- 12. Youth must be chaperoned and registration is required by Friday April 11. The cost is \$5.00 per youth. Scholarships are available.

Rabbit Stations:

What's Up Doc- learn about anatomy and clues to causes for sick animals.

Take a Global Trip to places where rabbits are raised for many purposes.

Genes and Geniuses- Info from American Rabbit Breeders Assoc. to help you choose a rabbit.

Fiber Rabbits- learn about angora wool fibers and other rabbit products

Nutrition and Rabbit Health

Dairy Cattle Stations:

Holy Cow- have a look and feel inside a live cow rumen while learning about the digestive system of ruminants

Liquid Gold- Measuring and managing good quality colostrums

Weight Watchers- learn how to use a weight tape accurately and chart your heifer's growth

Tickle my Rumen- Learn about feed samples, TMR mixes, quality feeds and what it all means to the dairy cow's diet.

Nutrition and Health- Learn about the 4 parts of a cow's stomach, what they do and how long it takes for food to digest.

Poultry Happenings for 2008

The 4-H Poultry Science Program at Cornell University has announced the 2008 Cornell Poultry Outing, June 7, 8 at the NYS Fairgrounds. Lectures, demonstrations, hands-on practices, the Avian Bowl, Fitting and Showmanship, Poultry Judging, Parts Identification, Egg preparation contest. Stay tuned for registration and more information.



Camp Opportunities for 4-H Members

4-H Camps offer youth a unique opportunity to build leadership skills, make new friends and master skills in special project areas. Schoharie County 4-H members have two opportunities for a camp experience.

For 4-H members who are currently enrolled, 4-H Camp Shankitunk is an overnight camping experience for 4-H'ers ages 8 and up. Camp Shankitunk is located on 145 acres in nearby Delaware County. Camp brochures can be found on-line at http://www.4hcampsny.org/shankitunk/brochure/4-H_Camp_Brochure_2008.pdf. Families should receive a printed copy in the mail around the end of March or the beginning of April. Camp Fees are \$220 for week 1 and \$235 for weeks 2-6 for enrolled 4-H members.

The second camping opportunity is for member ages 8 through 13 through 4-H Mini Day Camp. Mini Day Camp will take place July 1, 2, 3 with the Extension Center as home base. Some programs that are being developed for this year include: shooting sports (archery), geospatial science, Fair Art, cooking, fun with dogs, and the CSI cookie Jar. Registration and information will be available May 1.

Scholarships for either of these camping programs are available to youth who participate in 4-H Public Presentations on March 31. For more information please contact Eileen at the 4-H Office.



Intro to Geospatial Science: Tuesday, April 15, 9 am Extension Center Registration Deadline is Wednesday, April 9 Open to youth who are at least 8 years old and in the 3rd grade

Do you know where in the world you are? Are you interested in geocaching, GPS, computers, mapping and the outdoors?. Do you have an interest in meeting other 4-H members from around NY State? Geospatial Science is a new field with many career opportunities. Youth who join this initiative will have the opportunity to use GPS Units and GIS Software to help with a community mapping project that will help map recreational areas in Schoharie County.



Public Presentations 2008
Date: Monday March 31,
5, 6 or 7 pm Extension Center in Cobleskill

Registration Deadline is Monday March 24. Register by calling the Extension Center at 518-234-4303 or 518-296-8310.

General Guidelines:

The most important part of public presentations is simply making the effort. Presenters are evaluated based on their age and level of experience. No matter whether this is your first presentation or your 50th presentation, practice is always important.

Presentation Length

Cloverbuds: ages 5-8: It is recommended that cloverbuds do a very simple demonstration with 2 or 3 steps. For example, how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Cloverbuds are evaluated for participation only, but will be scored and evaluated based on age and experience. Cloverbuds are expected to make a presentation between 3 and 5 minutes.

First Time Presenters- presentations should be at least 5 minutes but no more than 15 minutes.

Experienced Presenters- Presentations must be at least 5 minutes, but it is expected that experienced presenters over the age of 9 will speak for 8 – 15 minutes.

Presentation Categories:

Demonstration- the presenter shows and explains how to do or make something. A demonstration may be done as a team (no more than 2) but each presenter must have a speaking role and play a significant part in the demonstration.

Illustrated Talk- the presenter uses visual aids such as a poster, clothing, equipment or an animal. Illustrated talks may not be done as a team.

Formal Speech- the presenter aims to persuade, motivate, or inform the audience without the use of visual aids. The speech is written in the presenters own words, however quotations, poetry, or other imagery may be incorporated into the speech.

Recitation- the presenter delivers a piece of pre-written material using vocal inflection, and body language to deliver the piece. Notes are permitted but it is expected that the piece be memorized.

Dramatic Interpretation- the presenter(s) deliver a re-enactment of a piece of scripted material. Props should be simple and minimal. Dramatic Interpretations may be done as a team of 2 presenters but each presenter is evaluated.

A Note on Your Appearance:

Your dress can say just as much about your topic as your presentation. Clothing should be neat and 4-H appropriate. No flip flops (except as part of a costume), no halter or spaghetti strap tops. All presenters are evaluated for appearance so make sure yours is neat and appropriate for your topic.

Preparing for your presentation:

Presenters are encouraged to pick up a copy of the Public Presentation Members Guide in advance of your presentation. There will be no workshop this year but you may call the 4-H Office and schedule a meeting with Eileen or Leslie to review your presentation.

UpComing Events

event	date	location
Kidz Expo	3/1	Empire Plaza, Albany
Regional Dairy Quiz Bowl	3/8	Golding MS Cobleskill
Dairy Discovery	3/28-29	Cornell University
Dog Club Meeting	3/13	Extension Center
March Dog Madness	3/15	Cornell University
Cooking Challenge- finals	3/29	Extension Center
Nano Day	3/30	Cornell University
Public Presentations	3/31	Extension Center
Tractor Driving Course	3/24 to 5/5	SUNY Cobleskill
Spring Gardening Workshop– Vegetable Marketing Program Meeting	4/2	Extension Center
Regional Horse Quiz Bowl	4/5	Albany Co.
Ag Literacy Day	4/8	Various elementary schools
Vet School Open House	4/12	Cornell University
Introduction to Geospatial Science	4/15	Extension Center
Animal Crackers	5/3	Cornell University
Vegetable Marketing Tour and Tomato Pickup	5/10	Golub Headquarters, Rotterdam
Leader Meeting	5/12	Extension Center
Horse Program Evaluations	6/1	SUNY
4-H Babysitting	June	tba
Horse Program Game Day	6/7	Cobleskill Fairgrounds
Summer Mini Day Camp	7/1, 7/2, 7/3	Extension Center

Leader Meeting

The Spring 4-H Leader Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 12 at 7 pm at the Extension Center. If you have a conflict with this date, please contact Eileen as soon as possible. Please mark your calendars.

The 4-H Chronicle is published monthly by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schoharie County. 4-H members, club leaders and volunteers are encouraged to submit activity reports by the 15th of each month. Submissions can be emailed to Schoharie@cornell.edu. or mailed or hand delivered to 173 S. Grand St. Cobleskill, NY 12043.

Your 4-H Staff

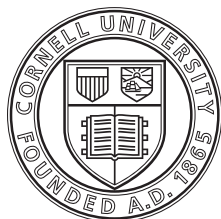
Eileen McGuire—
4-H Youth Development Program Leader
Leslie Rigley— Community Educator

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**Spring Gardening Workshop and
Vegetable Marketing Program Meeting
Wednesday April 2, Extension Center, Cobleskill**

Learn about preparing your soil, spacing seeds and plants, preventing common insect and disease problems, exhibiting at the Sunshine Fair, and marketing your produce to price chopper. Any member who is new to the vegetable marketing program **MUST** attend this meeting.

There is no fee. Registration deadline is Friday March 28. Please call 518-234-4303 to register.



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Schoharie County

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