Message From Marc...

Dear Members, Leaders and Parents,
The 2020 Sweet Grass County Fair will be held July 27th through 31st.

The 4-H Council met in September. Thank you to all who came to the meeting to help shape our program. The 4-H Council is an important part of our 4-H Program in Sweet Grass County as they provide the guidance for our program and make the major decisions concerning how the Sweet Grass County Fair is run. I do hope that each club will have at least two representatives present at all of the 4-H Council Meetings. There was a proposal brought to deal with underweight animals, and it was decided that underweight animals will be awarded white ribbons and will be sold at the end of the sale.

October is also the beginning of the new 4-H Year. That means that enrollment materials will be due soon. If you have any questions, please contact the office and we will help you figure out what you need to have turned in. Remember, this is enrollment, not Fair entries that you are currently turning in. Further, record books are due on October 4th, if you have not turned yours in, please do, as you can not sign-up for the new 4-H year until your record book is turned in.

The Dillard Bryce first year member award applications are due to the Extension Office by October 18th. Further, National 4-H Week is October 6th through October 12th, this is a great time to show those in the community what 4-H does and to recruit new 4-H members.

The Year End Bash is fast approaching. It will be held on November 3rd at the Legion. Kandi is working hard to make this a great event, with lots of awards and recognition for all of the great successes of our 4-H members.

I am currently working with Park and Gallatin County Extension to do some programs on Farm and Ranch Estate and Transition Planning for Ag Families. If you are interested in these programs, please contact the Extension Office. These will be free, but it would be nice to know if there is any interest in this topic.

Finally, the Extension Office is always looking for ways to help you and your clubs be successful. If there are topics of interest to you that would like to see a program done for, please let us know. As always, if you have any concerns or questions please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Marc King


**MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at Club Meetings is expected. In the last several years clubs around the State of Montana have struggled with club attendance and the State 4-H Office has advised clubs that they are able to enact and enforce meeting attendance requirements. We would strongly encourage each 4-H member to visit with their club leaders and to be aware of potential meeting attendance requirements that could impact your eligibility to attend fair and other 4-H events.

Example: 4-H is a commitment the same as playing a sport—you put your time and effort in throughout. You cannot sign up for basketball/football etc. and then skip all the practices and hope to play in the games - the same as skipping meetings all year, knowing deadlines and opportunities and then hoping to participate in those events and in the Fair.

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**Attention Shooting Sports—Rifle:**

If you turned in Shooting Targets for the award judging, you may stop back in and pick them up.

**RECORD BOOKS DUE AND RE-ENROLLMENT**

Record books will be due by 5pm October 4th. Remember, if your record book is not turned in on time, you will NOT receive any awards at the Year End Bash, including any Carcass Awards. You also will NOT be eligible to re-enroll for the 2019-2020 4-H year starting October 1. Re-enrollment Forms have already been mailed out — please fill them out and return them if you wish to re-enroll. I would like to have them all turned in by October 31st.

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**Fair Photos**

The website to view and order photos is: [https://lauracnelson.shootproof.com](https://lauracnelson.shootproof.com).
Advice for starting the new 4-H year

Plan your year (give guidance but don’t forget to have fun!). Recruit help. Elect new officers.

Community Service (choose at least 1 project per club)
Fundraisers (decide how to raise money for fair, club events etc.)
Field Trips (learn and have fun)
Guests (informative and fun)
Club Demonstrations (relaxed atmosphere, have each member do one, and encourage them to participate in County Demonstration Day.

Club Officers & Roles

The officer and committee system is a good way of dividing jobs and responsibilities among club members in an orderly way. The number of officers needed is determined by the size and type of the club. Club officers are usually elected annually, at the beginning of the 4-H Year. One of the leaders should be responsible for helping officers carry out their responsibilities. Encourage the officers to attend officer training when it is offered at the county or state level.

President: Prepares the agenda with other officers and leader, presides at meetings.
Vice President: Assumes duties of the President in his/her absence, works on committees.
Secretary: Keeps complete & accurate records and minutes of the meetings, keeps roll and all other club records up to date.
Treasurer: Handles all club money, keeps financial records.
Historian: Maintains and updates the club’s history book to preserve information.
Reporter: Writes news stories about meetings and special events for the local newspaper.

The Extension Office has officer material for most of the offices. If you would like a book, please let me know or stop by and pick one up.

Re-Enrollment Forms

Re-enrollment forms were mailed with your last newsletter.
Dues will remain the same:
Leaders: $5.00
Cloverbuds: $5.00
Members: $10.00
These are due back in the Extension Office by October 31st.
Remember that your Record Books must be turned in before you can re-enroll.

National 4-H week is October 6-12, 2019. This exciting, yet busy time in the 4-H year is a wonderful opportunity to highlight the amazing things 4-H members and volunteers have accomplished.

This year’s theme is Inspire Kids to Do!

Download or print social media and messaging resources at http://www.montana4h.org/resources/national_4h_week.html.

2020 FAIR DATES
July 27-31

Good Deed/Outstanding Member Nominations can be turned in anytime before the Year End Bash!!!
Year End Bash

The 2019 Year End Bash will be held on Sunday, November 3 at the American Legion from 2-6 pm. This is a potluck, with meat being provided, please bring your dish and serving utensil if needed. Plates, Drinks, Silverware will be furnished.

What to Bring:

Last Names A-P: Side Dish    Last Names R-Z: Dessert

There will be an Awards Presentation for carcass, record books and membership years!!!

FUN    FOOD    PRIZES

Council Meeting Recap...

BBQ: More help is needed, we will try to have people from every club help out next year.

Fair: There was a pig left in the washrack for a long time in the heat, and there seems to be a lot of theft.

Carcass recap.

Underweight animals: There was a lot of discussion as what to do with underweight animals. A motion was made and passed saying that all underweight animals will get automatic white ribbons and will be moved to the end of the sale and noted in the sale bill as not being market weight. This rule will help buyers understand that every fair animal is not ready for consumption, as some buyers do think that any fair animal they buy will be good eating.

Alpaca: It was asked if the fair could put in an alpaca class. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

New Family Orientation: Kandi will schedule a New Family Orientation night at the end of October.

4-H Exchange: Marc talked about the 4-H exchange program—see more info about it in this Newsletter.

Record books: Judging will be on October 8th. A committee of 6 people volunteered to judge.

Bash: The Bash will be held on Sunday, November 3 at 2:00. Bingo will be played again.

Fair Dates: Discussion was held about the dates for next year’s fair: It was decided that it will be July 27-31.

Officers: The new Council Officers will be: Lev Ott as President, Melissa Anderson as Vice President, Harv VanWagoner as Treasurer and Rebecca Rein as Secretary.

~~~ EVERY 4-H MEMBER, PARENT AND LEADER ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND COUNCIL MEETINGS. IT IS A VERY LAID BACK MEETING AND YOU CAN ALL SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS, IDEAS AND CONCERNS.
Exchange Program with Another State:

Stillwater County has invited our members to participate in their Exchange Program. This is a 2 year program where the group will travel to the Exchange State one year, and that same group of kids will come here the following year (or vice versa). They are talking about doing the exchange with either Kansas or Missouri. If you are interested in finding out more information let us know at the Office right away.

Otter Creek 4-H Club met on September 16. The meeting was called to order on 7:09. RaeAnna King took role call. Mollie Ruth gave the Treasurer’s Report. RaeAnna King read last meetings minutes. Old Business - Discussed Highway Clean-up. Reminders for Fair Thank You cards. Record Books due October 4th. Discussed ideas for projects at Fairgrounds. For example the Otter Creek Bench. Still working on Fair Picture Back-Drop. New Business – Discussed new protocol for under-weight animals at Fair. All under-weight animals will be sold last at the auction. Beginning a New Member Orientation. Discussed 4-H Exchange Program. Dillard Bryce Applications due soon. 2020 Fair dates are July 27th – 31st. RaeAnna King will contact Gusts about a window display to support National 4-H Week which is October 6th – 12th. Year End Bash will be November 3rd. We brainstormed Bingo Prizes. Re-Enrollment forms are due October 24th. Cody Stene did a demonstration on spatting. Jake Stene did a demonstration on replacing fletchings on an arrow. Our next meeting will be October 21st at 5:30. By Kira Krug

Member Spotlight

Our **Member Spotlight** for October is **Tim Rostad**. Tim is a 14 year old Freshman at SGHS. He is starting his 3rd year in 4-H. Tim plays football and basketball as well as his dedication to his sheep and 4-H. He also likes to attend college basketball games.

In 4-H, Tim is involved in the market sheep project, and says his favorite part of 4-H is meeting new people and raising his animals. He has a total of 9 sheep currently, 4 of those being Columbia and the others are bum lambs that he raised from birth. Tim says that being involved in 4-H has taught him responsibility and proved that a kid from metro Denver can be in 4-H and be successful at it.

Tim was recently awarded a sheep starter flock from the Columbia Sheep Breeders Association. This award consists of 4 registered Columbia ewes. To apply for this award, Tim had to fill out an application, provide a letter of his interest, facilities, goals, budget, etc and provide letters of support and recommendation. The Association gave out 2 awards to members in the State this year.

Each of these 2 students were awarded 4 ewes to start their own herd. Tim showed one of the ewes at the end of August at the Columbia Sheep Breeders Association show in Lewistown, where he took 2nd place. At this show the judge provided a lot of information and was very hands on. He provided information about the ewe’s wool quality and he spoke to each student about the quality of their ewe. This award allows Tim to show that he can work and have animals of his own. He plans on breeding his ewes to a Columbia ram. Tim says that Columbia sheep are not only known for their excellent wool quality but also for their carcasses. Tim plans on attending other shows in the future with his sheep. **Congratulations Tim!!!**

Photos: Tim at the Show, The donors and recipients, The 4 ewes he was awarded.
**Fall Training** is the annual leadership development retreat for Montana 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders. The event is planned, implemented, and evaluated by the State Ambassador Officer Team. Youth will leave the weekend prepared and excited to take the knowledge and skills they have gained and apply them in their counties. It is also a great place to have youth leaders exchange ideas and create a statewide network of resources.

Friday October 18- Sunday October 20, 2019, Holiday Inn, Bozeman, MT

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A TEEN LEADER PLEASE LET US KNOW AT THE OFFICE. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND HELP THE YOUNGER MEMBERS AS A ROLE MODEL!!!

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**Summer Outbound Opportunities**

**Costa Rica (June 18-July 17, 2020)**
Travel to Costa Rica for one summer month. Youth are clustered in a single area of the country and stay with 4-H families. This program is for individuals who are motivated to learn to speak Spanish and immerse themselves in a Spanish-speaking country.

**Japan 4-week (July 8-August 6, 2020)**
Travel to Japan for a month and experience what it is like to live with a Japanese family. Delegates are accompanied by chaperones who remain in-country for the duration of the exchange.

**Nihongo Japan 8-week (June 10-August 6, 2020)**
Travel to Japan for 8 weeks and immerse yourself in the Japanese culture. This program is designed for mature, independent 4-H members. During the first four weeks, delegates stay with a host family in the Tokyo area and travel by train to the Labo Language and Cultural Institute for in-depth language and culture instruction. The second four weeks are like the one-month Japanese home stay and students move to another family and return to the U.S. with the full Japanese delegation. Chaperones accompany 8-week delegates.

**Norway or Finland (every other year). Norway (June 24-July 24, 2020)**
Travel to Norway or Finland for a month in the summer.

**South Korea (July 15-August 13, 2020)**
Travel to South Korea for a month and immerse yourself in Korean culture by staying with a host family. For more information about Korea 4-H go to [http://www.facebook.com/korea4h](http://www.facebook.com/korea4h)

**Taiwan (June 28-July 28, 2020)**
Travel to Taiwan for a month and immerse yourself in Taiwanese culture by staying with a host family.

**Romania - New in 2020! (June 24-July 24)**
Travel to Romania for a month and immerse yourself in Romanian culture by staying with a host family.

**New Zealand (July 1-21)**
Travel to New Zealand for approximately 20 days during our summer and their winter. Approximate dates are July 1-21, 2020.

**Montana 4-H International Program for Young Adults (IPYA) Opportunities**
IPYA is a three to a six-month international exchange program to countries around the world for those interested in a rural, work experience. Upon their return to the U.S. delegates are required to update country guides and to report on their experiences to schools across Montana.

For More Information: [http://montana4h.org/programs/international/outbound/index.html](http://montana4h.org/programs/international/outbound/index.html)
**October 2019**

“Strive not to be a success but rather to be of value.” – Albert Einstein

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**RECORD BOOKS DUE**

**PLEASE HAVE RE-ENROLLMENTS IN BY TODAY!**

**YEARN END BASH**
Sunday, November 3
2-6pm