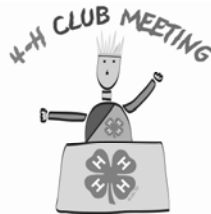




September 2011

Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Hood County Office
(817) 579-3280 OR FAX (817) 408-2533
Web Site: <http://hood-tx.tamu.edu>
E-mail: m-vahlenkamp@tamu.edu



4-H Club Meetings

September 1st - Lipan 4-H Club, 6:30 p.m. at the Lipan Community Center

September 12th - Hood County Young Riders, 7:00 p.m. at the Reunion Fair Grounds

September 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th - K9's & Kids 4-H Club, 6:30 p.m. for Rally-Obedience-Showmanship Classes and Regular Business Meeting
September 5, 2011 starting at 6:30 p.m. at 5110 N. Gate Rd in Granbury (Paws 2 Play) Agility Class will be on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

September 12th - Lake Granbury Community 4-H Club, 7:00 p.m. at the Hood County Annex 1 Meeting Room

September 13th, 20th & 27th Shooting Sports 4-H Club, 5:00 p.m. at the Reunion fair Grounds

September 6th -Tolar 4-H Club, 6:30 p.m. at the Tolar Fire Hall

September 13th - Cornerstone 4-H Club, 3:30 p.m. at the Cornerstone Christian Academy



4-H Re-enrollment

Each year we will reenroll for 4-H starting on September 1, 2011. This year the process will be different. We will use the 4-H Connect online enrollment process, the web address is <http://texas.4honline.com>. If you were in 4-H this year you already have a profile. **DO NOT SET UP A PROFILE.** When you get to the login page enter your e-mail that you put on your 4-H enrollment form then click "***I forgot my password***" it will send you a password and then you can log into your profile. When you reenroll you will have to pay the \$20 participation fee. Please pay this with a credit card or e-check. **Please DO NOT** select to pay with county check. If you have any questions please let me know.

4-H Fair Day
September 7, 2011
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Hood Annex 1 Meeting Room
Granbury, TX

Invite your friends and come learn more about the Hood County 4-H Program at our annual Fair Day. 4-H is more than just showing an animal. It is everything from helping others in the community to public speaking, wildlife, horses, dogs, singing, and even photography. At the Fair Day you will be able to visit with representatives from each of our seven clubs and find out which is right for you. For more information call (817) 579-3280.

**4-H Council & Adult
Leader Meeting**

We will have our September 4-H Council and Adult Leader Meeting on September 26, 2011, at 6:30 pm at the Annex 1 meeting room. Remember all club presidents and council delegates should attend the council meeting and the Adult Leader Meeting is open to all parents and leaders.

4-H Participation Fee

Change is part of life and as we go through our lives things will always be changing and evolving. For 4-H part of this change will begin on September 1, 2011. 4-H will now have an annual participation fee of \$20 for each 4-H'er. I set in on a conference call with Dr. Chris Boleman the 4-H Youth Development Program Director and he put it this way, "It is \$1.67 worth of investment each month for the future of our youth". That is the equivalent of 1 drink at the Sonic. I have included a 1 page letter in this newsletter that gives more information. I know there will be many questions. Please do me two favors:

1. Let me know when you have a question and I will try to get us an answer.
2. If we have a 4-H'er who truly wants to be in 4-H and can't afford the \$20 have them contact me or you can let me know. We will do everything we can to make sure everyone has a chance to benefit from 4-H.

E-Mail Addresses

If you would like to receive 4-H e-mail updates, reminders, and the 4-H newsletter via e-mail call the Extension Office at (817)579-3280 or e-mail Marty at: m-vahlenkamp@tamu.edu

Google Calendar Update

We have added the 2011-2012 4-H Dates to the Google calendar. Many of these District and State Dates are tentative right now. We will continue to update these as we get more information. If your club wants to put meeting information on the calendar let us know and we will add the information.

Family Living Division Entries
DUE NO LATER THAN Friday, November
11, 2011 by 4:00.

No late entries accepted.
The theme for 2012 is
"Country Life"

The Family Living Division entry forms are available to be picked up at the County Extension Office or print a copy off our website <http://hood-tx.tamu.edu>, click on Publications and Family Living Entry Form. **You also need to read the Rules and Regulations for the Hood County Junior Livestock Show for Family Living Division information.** Entry fees this year are \$2.00 per entry with a maximum of 20 entries per exhibitor. Entry fee must be paid at time of registration. It is your responsibility to fully read the guidelines prior to completing the forms. The guidelines will inform you and answer many questions. This is a great opportunity, so get involved in the Family Living Division of the Hood County Junior Livestock Show. Give us a call at 817-579-3280 if you have any questions. Be sure to get your forms completed and **entry fees paid and turned in no later than Friday, November 11, 2011 by 4:00 p.m.**



County 4-H Awards Banquet

Congratulations to all our 4-H'ers for a great year. A big thank you to everyone that helped set up, decorate, conduct and clean up the 4-H Awards Banquet.

**County Wide Community
Service Project**

Thank you to all the 4-H'ers that collected coke tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. As a county we collected approximately 55 gallons. On August 17, 2011 we took the tabs to the Ronald McDonald House in Fort Worth. The Ronald McDonald House will sell the tabs to a recycling center and the money raised will help pay for operations costs for running the house. GOOD JOB 4-H'ers!!!

Food Challenge

The Food Challenge contest is a great event to work with friends, learn how to cook and learn about foods and nutrition. The adult leaders will be meeting soon to make plans for our county event. When this happens I will send out an e-mail about the first project meeting. If you are interested in being on a team and participating please let me know.



2011 DISTRICT 8 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Photography Contest information

- **Entry Deadline: Wednesday, September 14, 2011**
- **Email digital copy of photograph(s) to: m-vahlenkamp@tamu.edu**

Please note a few changes:

Eligibility: Participants must be 4-H members currently enrolled on 4-H Connect with the Texas 4-H Youth Development and actively participating in the Photography project.

PROCESS OF SUBMITTING PHOTOGRAPHS

All entries for the 2011 District 8 Photography Contest will be completed using e-mail. Please read these submission rules very careful to prevent disqualification of entries!

1. **Formatting the Photograph.** Images must be JPEG/jpg format and must not exceed 1 MB.
2. **Labeling/Naming the Photograph.** Each photograph will need to be clearly labeled with the County name, 4-H member's first and last name and the name of the category (see below for label name). For example: A 4-H member entering the Details & Macros category would label their photograph as: "Hood_County_John Doe_Details" *Please use the following labels for the categories:*

CATEGORY	FILE LABEL NAME
PEOPLE	People
ANIMALS - WILDLIFE	Wildlife
ANIMALS - DOMESTIC	Domestic
MARINE/AQUATICS	Marine
ELEMENTS OF DESIGN	Elements
NATURE/LANDSCAPE	Nature
PLANT/FLORA	Plant
DETAILS & MACROS	Details
DIGITAL DARKROOM	Darkroom
THEME	Theme
NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY	Night
FOOD	Food
DOMINANT COLOR	Dominant
CATCH ALL	All

District Display: October 7-15, 2011

Heart O' Texas Fair, Waco, Texas Creative Arts/Exhibit Building

- **To be eligible, photographs must have been taken between October 1, 2010 and the time of entry for the 2011 contest.**

For more information or help with the new process of entering photography contest please contact the Extension office.

Livestock & Project News

Stock Show Projects

If you need help finding a project for this year's show season please give me a call. I will be glad to help.

Quality Counts for Major Stock Shows

Starting in 2012 if you want to exhibit a livestock project at the Major Stock Shows you must have passed a Quality Counts test. To do this go to <http://qualitycounts.tamu.edu> click on verification and then click take the test. Once you are there click the 4-H tab. You will enter your information and take the test. Once you pass with an 80% score you will get a number that we will have to submit at entry time. If you have any questions give me a call.

Agricultural Mechanics Entries for the 2012 Hood County Junior Livestock Show

Agricultural Mechanics entries must be registered by 4:00 p.m. on November 11, 2011. The entry fee will be \$20.00 for each entry. Entries must have been made by the exhibitor between the dates of January 9, 2011 and January 12, 2012. For more information contact the Extension Office at (817) 579-3280.



Major Show Lamb and Goat Validation October 11, 2011 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Major show lamb and goat validations will be at the Granbury FFA Ag Barn on October 11, 2011 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Broiler Orders

Broiler orders must be paid and ordered by **October 12, 2011 no later than 4:00 p.m.** If you want to show broilers at the 2012 County Stock Show please let me know as soon as possible. This year a new rule has been placed in the rules and regulations by the HCJLS *"Birds not claimed by noon on pick-up day will be given away to present paid exhibitors."*

County Validation

All market lambs, goats, swine and breeding entries will be validation tagged by 12:00 Noon on **November 12, 2011**. Validation days for the week prior to deadline are as follows:

Monday, November 7, 2011 at **Lipan**
Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at **Tolar**
Thursday, November 10, 2011 at **Granbury**
Saturday, November 12, 2011 at **Reunion Fairgrounds**

Breeding animals shall be declared at validation. A minimum of 5 animals are required to make a show. Owner must be able to show proof of ownership by papers, tagging or tattoos by November 12, 2011.

Rabbits will be validated by 12:00 Noon on December 10, 2011.

Livestock Raisers Association

The HCLRA meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at the fairgrounds. We need more 4-H families to get involved with this group. They make the rules for the county show, up-keep the facilities and provide us a place and opportunity to show our projects. Next meeting is September 15, 2011.



Texas 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. is sponsoring the national 2012 4-H essay contest. Williamson and Collin County Bee Keepers Associations are sponsoring the Texas 4-H beekeeping essay contest. The contest is open to all active 4-H club members, who have not previously placed nationally. The deadline for entries to be in (not post marked) the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Office is January 13, 2012.

National Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners:

1st Place: \$750.00

2nd Place: \$500.00

3rd Place: \$250.00

Each State Winner, including the national winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping or honey.

Texas Cash Prizes to 3 Top Winners

1st Place: \$100.00

2nd Place: \$75.00

3rd Place: \$50.00

TOPIC:

For the 2012 essay contest, the **essay topic is: "The Results of Honey Bee Pollination in My Community"**

For contest rules, guidelines and certification forms contact the Extension Office at (817) 579-3280.

Question of the Month: What is the theme for this year's Family Living Division at the County Livestock Show?

Last month's question: What is the website for 4-H Connect? Correct answer is <http://texas.4honline.com> congratulations for Leslie Price calling in with the correct answer.

Quote of the Month:

"No man ever reached to excellence in any one art or profession without having passed through the slow and painful process of study and preparation."

-Horace-

Marty Vahlenkamp
CEA-AG
Hood County

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service or accommodations in order to participate in the 4-H program should contact the Hood County Office of Texas AgriLife Extension service at (817) 579-3280.