



Illinois *Leader*

Publication for Illinois 4-H Leaders

June-July 2007

For All the Work Your Club Has Done This Year...



Many 4-H club set goals at the beginning of the 4-H year and have a planned program for their monthly meetings focusing on specific topics and activities. Why not apply to be recognized for your work and success? Your club can apply by completing an Illinois 4-H Club/Group Report Form and submitting it to the State 4-H Office! Recognition is given in the seven curriculum areas. Ten clubs will be honored in each area (if the minimum points are achieved.)

The form is available via the 4-H website: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/ops/90231.doc>. Involve your members in completing the club report form. Applications must be received in the State 4-H Office **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15**. Allow plenty of time for signatures and mailing as this must go through the local Extension office. Counties will be notified of the status of their clubs as state 4-H club winners in early September. Clubs receive a State Winner Certificate, special 4-H patch for their banners, and a \$50 cash award. (Note: FEIN's are required to receive the cash award.) *We hope to receive an application from YOUR club!*

VALUED Volunteer Program



Are you a **new volunteer** eager to learn more about 4-H and Extension? Are you a **second or third year leader** ready to expand your 4-H club opportunities? Have you received orientation on 4-H volunteer roles, club organization, club program planning, positive youth development, communications, and/or experiential learning?

Through the **VALUED Volunteer Orientation Program**, new 4-H leaders will be asked to complete **six, one-hour orientation** modules over the course of the 2007-08 4-H year. Lessons can be completed on-line, via toll-free telephone conferences, through self-study packets, and/or through face-to-face meetings. Special recognition will be awarded for completion.

Are you a more **experienced leader** and desire to learn ideas to strengthen your club program and leadership opportunities for your members? Do you want to learn more about ages and stages of youth development, behavior management, making meetings fun, parental involvement, parliamentary procedure, policies, public presentations, risk management, or working with officers & committees?

After orientation, 4-H leaders may enroll in the **training** series of advanced topics. There are three required modules and participants may choose from six other elective modules to round out the series of six sessions.

Join more than 300 4-H leaders who have participated in this program since its inception. The volunteers found the orientation modules helpful, appreciated the sharing opportunities, and used many of the newly identified resources with their own 4-H club. They also enjoyed the variety of teaching methods and the opportunity to receive training through a mix of delivery systems.

For more detailed information and a registration form, contact your local Extension office in **July** to sign up for the **VALUED Volunteer Program**.

2007 NCRVF



The **2007 North Central Region Volunteer Forum** will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, **October 12-14, 2007**, at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel near General Mitchell Field. The theme of the forum is “*Capture the Spirit.*” The forum will feature speakers, seminars, educational tours, entertainment, and networking. Information on the program, lodging, and registration is available on-line at www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/07ncrvf.html. Cost is \$200 for early bird registration. The leader forum is open to all 4-H volunteers from the 12 Midwest states. Consider joining your colleagues this October in Wisconsin.

Get Up and Move!



The **Get Up and Move!** Initiative, which focuses on increased physical activity and nutrition delivered during 4-H club meetings, is nearing the end of its third year. Special incentives are available this fall, **if:**

- your club has been using the leader guides, activity guides, recipes, calendars, and family sheets, and has completed five or more months of activities from the **Get Up and Move!** materials this year,
- you send your completed **Get Up and Move! Club/Group Chart** of minutes of physical activity tracked by your members to the State 4-H Office, 302 E. John St., Suite 1901, Champaign, IL 61820 by **August 15, 2007**.

Print materials from Series I and II and III will be available this fall through the local Extension office. All materials are also available on the 4-H web site at www.4-h.uiuc.edu/opps/move. Get moving today!

Come See 4-H at the State Fair!



Last year new space was added to the 4-H program at the Illinois State Fair and this year growth continues. Our space at the **State Fair Exposition Building** is located on the main street of the fairgrounds – we’ve taken over the Mezzanine level and have lots of promotional activities planned! From hands-on activities to technology stations, it’s a great place to take the family. Also, come see county displays highlighting 4-H projects from across the state. Fair visitors will be able to explore 4-H opportunities, learn something new, and have fun, all at the same time!

Individual members and/or clubs are needed to help with leading activities and recruiting fair-goers to come to the mezzanine level. If you and your club/group can help for a few hours, a day, or multiple days, we’re eager to have you join us! **4-H Ambassadors and/or 4-H members** can assist with promoting 4-H, answering questions, working with young children, and talking to parents about the benefits of 4-H. Check with your local Extension office if you’re willing to help – they’ll put you in touch with the right person to get you on the schedule!

4-H Conference Judging this year will take place **August 10-13** in the following project areas: Clothing Decisions; Crops; Leadership; Photography; Sports Fishing; and two Visual Arts classes, Fiber and Paper. Check with your local Extension office to see which day your (Extension Unit) county is assigned to exhibit and for a complete listing of 4-H activities at the 2007 Illinois State Fair in August!

The Illinois Leader is your publication. Submit story ideas and comments to:
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