



Illinois *Leader*

Publication for Illinois 4-H Leaders

April – May 2008

Illini Summer Academies – Registration Open Now!



Registration is open and sessions are filling up fast for the first **Illini Summer Academies!** Educational programs in five program areas: Aerospace Engineering, Horticulture, Applied Health Sciences, Leadership, and Veterinary Medicine will be offered. Space is limited, so youth need to register quickly to ensure their first choice!

ISA is being held on the University of Illinois campus from **June 26-28**. Delegates will stay in college dormitories and spend 15 hours or more in their academy workshops. Evening activities will be spent together and include a movie night, picnic, recreation, formal banquet, and dance. Outstanding, nationally-known speakers Craig Hillier and Harriet Turk will open and close the conference program.

On-line registration, information on the academies, schedule, and fee schedule are all available at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/annual004.html>. Early-bird fee discounts end **April 15**. Registration will close for each academy when it is full or **May 23**, whichever comes first.

WANTED – Clubs at the Fair!



We are again offering clubs an opportunity to present educational programming to the general public at the State Fair. **Club/Group Action Presentations** are being sought for each day of the fair – from August 8 through 17 – on the Mezzanine level of the Exposition Building. Since conference judging will be offered each day of the fair this year, we hope to have lots of audience participation opportunities for the groups at this location.

The application is available from your local Extension office or at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/annual006.html>. The application is due to the State 4-H Office postmarked by **May 1, 2008**. Each accepted presentation will receive \$100 cash premium for each 5-hour day the group works. For more information, contact Deb Stocker at: dstocker@uiuc.edu.

National Volunteer Week 2008



National Volunteer Week is **April 27-May 3, 2008**. The theme this year is “Inspire by Example”, which clearly describes what 4-H volunteers do as they role model positive behavior for youth across Illinois.

University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development staff would like to thank the nearly 25,000 youth and adult volunteers who support Illinois youth as they participate in 4-H community clubs, after-school programs, special interests groups, and camps. We truly appreciate the time and effort you expend to create positive youth development environments for Illinois’ youth. Volunteers have the power to inspire the people they help and to inspire others to serve.

Rocketry Resources from National Association of Rocketry



4-H is partnering with the **National Association of Rocketry (NAR)** to help youth learn about aerospace topics. NAR is an organized body of rocket hobbyists founded to help youth learn about science and math through building and safely launching their own model rockets. 4-H aerospace project leaders may access NAR resources free of charge. To receive the NAR Member Guidebook and 2 CD's on model rocketry building and flying, volunteers should send their name, email address and mailing address to GetSETInfo@fourhcouncil.edu. There are five NAR sections in Illinois along with at least 10 NAR mentors. To learn more about NAR go to their web site at www.nar.org.

2007 NCRVF



The **2008 North Central Region Volunteer Forum** will be held in Columbus, Ohio, **November 6-8, 2008**, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. Illinois volunteers should plan to “REV UP,” as the conference theme suggests. The meeting will offer participants opportunities to learn how to bring youth and adults together to work in partnership, reach diverse audiences, and implement hands-on learning opportunities. Educational seminars will provide information and tools that participants can take home to use in their 4-H communities and clubs. On-line registration information will be available in mid-May at www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/. The leader forum is open to all 4-H volunteers from the 12 Midwest states. Plan to join nearly 500 volunteers from across the Midwest and **“REV UP”! (Realize, Energize, Visualize – Unlimited Potential)**

GREEN Bloodlines in Your Family?



The Illinois 4-H Foundation welcomes nominations for the **2008 4-H Family Spirit Award** which will be presented at the 4-H Family Picnic at the Illinois State Fair on August 9. The Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award recognizes a family with at least three generations and at least 15 different family members (including in-laws) that have either been 4-H members, leaders, or volunteers; having at least 100 cumulative years of 4-H membership or volunteerism represented within the family. Selection is based on the total number of family members with 4-H connections, total number of years of 4-H involvement, diversity of experiences and recognitions earned by the 4-H members, and the collective impact family members have made as advocates of their county and state 4-H programs. Find on-line applications at: <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/foundation/awards.html>. For more information, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation office at 217-333-9295 or 4H@aces.uiuc.edu. Nominations are due by **May 30**.

Previous recipients of the Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award are:

- The Bauer-Hileman Family, Union (2007)
- The Fred A. Francis Family, Will (2006)
- The Thomas & Fern Troyer Rice Families, Iroquois & Woodford (2005)
- The Howard Peverly & Marvin Schnitzler Families, Macon & JoDaviess (2004)
- The Clarence & Mabel Ropp Family, McLean (2003)
- The W.B. Otwell Family, Macoupin (2002)

The Illinois Leader is your publication. Submit story ideas and comments to:
Illinois Leader, Sheri Seibold, 302 E. John, Suite 1901, Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-0910
www.4-h.uiuc.edu

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