



NOV/DEC 2009



University of California Cooperative Extension

News & Views

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H MEMBERS, LEADERS & PARENTS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

A NIGHT OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT !

Congratulations to everyone and our Young Achievers for your year of achievements & Community Service! This year's Achievement Night was "A Night of Outstanding Achievement." We also want to thank Marlene Thomason, Community Club Leader of Parkfield 4-H for 40 years of 4-H Volunteer Service!

See photos on Page 7.

Meet the new 2009-2010 San Luis Obispo County 4-H All Stars! - See Picture on Page 9

Hello, my name is Anthony Aguirre and I am 17 years old. In my four years in the Santa Margarita 4-H club, I earned four stars most recently the All Star! When I joined 4-H, I was the teen leader for the community service and now for poultry. I was club president and held two consecutive terms as secretary. The projects that I have been in are cake decorating, speech and communications, market lamb, poultry, leadership development and gardening. I look forward to another great year!

Hi, my name is Alexis Aguirre, I am 16, and I am one of your new 2009-2010 county All Stars! During my 5 years in 4-H, I have been a member of Santa Margarita 4-H club. The projects in which I have been very involved are poultry, sheep and community service as well as leadership development, sewing, speech and communications, knitting, gardening, and cake decorating. In addition to being a teen leader for poultry, I have held the club offices of secretary, vice president, and currently president. My brother and I made history by being the first pair of siblings to be on the same team. I feel honored to be serving as a county officer with him and Emily.

Hi my name is Emily Von Dollen. I am 17 years old and have been a member of the Rio Rancheros 4-H group for eight years. While in 4-H, I've done market sheep, replacement heifers, citizenship, and sewing. I am honored to be selected as one of SLO county's All Stars with Alexis and Anthony. Becoming an All-Star for me means a lot, seeing that both my brother and sister were them. I believe them to be role models and hard working individuals. All Stars are influential and can do a lot for themselves as well as the 4-H community if they strap down. It's a lot to live up to but I think that the three of us along with the support of our advisor can make this image become more limpid to the county's 4-Hers. I also want the citizenship effort among the All Stars and 4-H community to become a more important part supporting the Sacramento California Focus program as well as local community service.

To kick off National 4-H Week, we went as the new All Stars to Cat Country (96.1) radio studio on Monday and had an interview with Mark and Becky on the morning show. We discussed the 4-H program in our county as well as our 4-H experiences. It is our goal to monthly promote and discuss 4-H functions on Cat Country. So on the first Mondays of the month, be listening to 96.1 at 8:30 a.m., as we will be broadcasted live.

Giving a presentation to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors the following day, we asked them to declare October 4-11 2009 as National 4-H Week in our county and to fly the 4-H flag over the government center. The board approved and shared how pleased they were about the positive influence that 4-H program has on youth.

This year we want to bring the power of the All-Stars back and make this achievement well known through the 4-H groups and encourage the members to become All-Stars. We would also like to become more active in the 4-H activities to motivate the members and show that we do care. To be a County All Star, we needed to have the rank of a gold star. Being an All Star means that we are the County's representatives; we plan and/or facilitate 4-H county events; we are also voting members of the 4-H management board (the backbone of our county 4-H!). It is truly wonderful to have this leadership opportunity! Among our goals this year are to be visible clubs and their members, to be active and involved in numerous countywide events, and above all, to be positive role models to 4-H members everywhere. **All Star Advisor's Note: We have a small but energetic group of All Stars this year. If you are interested in their participation/leadership at a club or project meeting or event, please contact me at (805)441-6138. Thank you. Leslie Rebik**

SLO County's 4-H website is:
<http://clubs.ca4h.org/sanluisobispo>
State 4-H website: <http://www.ca4h.org>
SAFETY NOTES: <http://safety.ucanr.org/4h/>

National & State 4-H News

- **Hats Off to Kindness** at the **State Fashion Revue!** Make a soft, fleece or knitted hat, bring it to the State Fashion Revue, model it, and donate it to cancer patients, young or old! This community service is open to all 4-H youth and adults. This is a great way to use your sewing skills for the benefit of your community. Think soft and fuzzy, not hard or scratchy. Bring your hats to Fashion Revue in May and let's show our cancer patients we care! For more details, check out the website at <http://www.ca4h.org/projresource/fashion/>
- The 3rd annual **State 4-H Equine Field Day** will be held **Saturday, November 22nd** at Cal Poly Pomona. It is a day of educational workshops, tack swap & more for 4-H horse leaders, members and parents! Pre-registration is due **November 14th**. More information and pre-registration forms are available at the CA 4-H horse web site <http://ca4h.org/projresource/horse/>. Contact Jeanne George at jlgeorge@ucdavis.edu or Cheryl Eggleston at caeggleston@ucdavis.edu if you have workshop ideas and questions.
- California will be sending 4-H members and leaders outbound on the **California International Exchange Program** during the summer of 2010. Are you ready for a one month experience in Australia, Costa Rica, or Japan? Delegates must submit an application with reference letters and complete an interview by **January 27, 2010**. More information is available at: <http://ca4h.org/exchange/>
- Dates have been set for the 2009 **Citizenship Focus Program**. Come participate in hands-on programs that bring government and policy issues to life and help you understand how you can be more involved in your own community. Registration is now open and county offices can submit delegate information. Washington Focus registration and deposits are due by November 5, 2008. California Focus registration and deposit is due January 16, 2009. Financial assistance is available for both the California and Washington Focus Program. A merit scholarship is available for California Focus.
California Focus, June 26-30, 2009, <http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/focus/>
Washington Focus I
Road to Democracy June 21-29, 2009
Heritage Trail I June 21-27, 2009
Washington Focus II
Global Journey July 12-22, 2009
Heritage Trail II July 12-18, 2009
<http://www.ca4h.org/citizenship/dcfocus/>
- *To access a computer or websites call the 4-H office 781-5943.*

News & Views is published by the San Luis Obispo County 4-H Youth Program, University of California, Cooperative Extension, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. *News & Views* is a monthly newsletter for 4-H members, leaders and parents in San Luis Obispo County.



Please submit articles and photos by the 15th of each month to:

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Richard P. Enfield,
4-H Youth Development Advisor

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No endorsement of named products and/or companies is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products and/or companies which are not mentioned. Persons with special needs wishing to attend a program should contact the 4-H Office in advance. Efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Create an Atmosphere Where Learning is Fun

It's always an exciting time when a new 4-H program year begins. There are great possibilities ahead; a new slate for sharing good times, learning new things and growing as a person and citizen of our world. It is especially important, then, at this time of year to stop and consider what "4-H" means to us—our members and families—and how each of us contribute to making the SLO County program the amazing and positive experience that it is.

There are many ways we do this. But the foundation is our parents and adult volunteers and the behavior they model. So, now that the new program year has rolled around once again, and we see old friends and meet new ones, let's all remember the reason we're here: To create an environment where learning is fun, in an atmosphere of trust, and in a way we can be proud our members will emulate. We CAN "Make the Best Better" by practicing a few basic principles.



- Provide encouragement and support. Allow your child to experience the full process of 4-H, no matter the outcome.
 - Keep your expectations realistic and open. Knowledge and life skills take time to develop.
 - Support your child's efforts. Provide resources and supplies for projects.
 - Respect youth ownership of projects. Allow your child to do his/her own project.
 - Encourage your child to focus on the positive in the experience or situation and less on competition.
 - Allow your child to make mistakes. We learn through our mistakes and in correcting them.
- Encourage your child to do his or her best, not to be better than someone else.
 - Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner.
 - Be respectful of adult volunteers. Allow leaders to lead, and give them your support.
 - Deliver and pick up your child on time for events and meetings.
 - Help out cheerfully and often. Follow through when you volunteer.
 - Demonstrate ethical behaviors.
 - Treat animals humanely and teach your child to provide appropriate animal care.
 - Attend meetings and participate in activities and events. It makes for a lighter load on each and is more fun for everyone.

They're good for us, and good for our youth!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SLO County 4-H YDP Management Board Open Positions



We are currently recruiting for two positions on the 4-H Youth Development Management Board: **Fundraising Director** and **Section Council Delegate**. The purpose of the 4-H Management Board is to oversee the management aspects of the San Luis Obispo County 4-H Youth Development Program. Oversight includes policy making and implementation, as well as management responsibilities in the areas of awards, finances, fundraising, leader complaints, liaison with fairs, liaison with regional and local councils, and visibility. The members of the board work closely with one another and with the 4-H Youth Development Advisor.



The **Fundraising Director** is responsible for providing leadership to and managing the fundraising efforts of the board on behalf of the 4-H program. The Director also chairs the Fundraising Committee, which is responsible for short and long range goal setting, planning, and program implementation related to fundraising.

The **Section Council Delegate** represents San Luis Obispo County on the South Sectional 4-H Leaders' Council and serves as the link between the council and the SLO County 4-H YDP Management Board. The Leaders' Council meets four times a year and assists in coordinating Sectional events that are leader planned; such as TIC, Field Days and the State Leaders' Forum. This is an interesting position which provides many opportunities to meet and work with representatives of the 4-H Program throughout California.



If you are interested in applying for one of these positions on the **4-H Management Board** or if you have any questions, we look forward to talking with you. Please call the 4-H office at 781-5943.

ATTENTION ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CERTIFIED 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER:

Tony Macera, Community Club Leader of Chaparral 4-H Club, is trying to coordinate a local Shooting Sports Training Class in the Rifle Specialty in Atascadero if he can get enough interested folks in the Central Coast Area. If you are interested in becoming a Certified 4-H Shooting Sports Leader please phone Tony Macera at phone # 441-2540.

4-H Shooting Sports Workshop Rifle Discipline Tulare, CA

Saturday, January 9, 2010 – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sunday, January 10, 2010 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

A 4-H shooting sports workshop for the rifle discipline will be held at Rankin Field Range, 20000 Road 140 in Tulare. Participants must attend both days of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as rifle trainer and can lead a rifle project at the club level or serve as county trainer to certify other leaders. There is no cost for the course. To register for the course and receive more information contact John Borba at: jaborba@ucdavis.edu For information about the facility and a map, please visit the range website at: http://www.tcdsa.org/documents/rankin_field.htm



Richard Enfield, 4-H Youth Development Advisor and County Director, conducting the Biofuel Blast experiment at the Paso Robles Event Center on National Youth Science Day, Wednesday, October 7, 2009. (See article on page 5). The 4-H office still has 3 more of the Biofuel Blast kits available. Contact Cindy Hansen, 4-H Program Representative at 781-5950 if your club would like to do this experiment.



4-H in the News...Below are excerpts from a recent newspaper article.

Study: 4-H Sparks Science Achievement in Children

By MARK PRATT | Associated Press Writer

American universities have an ally in their efforts to educate more students in science, technology and engineering and keep the nation competitive in the global economy, a Tufts University study shows. Children involved in 4-H perform better in those subjects and are more likely to pursue science careers, according to the study, in conjunction with 4-H National Youth Science Day.

"When parents ask, 'What can I do to get my kid a leg up?,' getting them involved in 4-H turns out to be a very effective strategy," said Richard Lerner, director of the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts and lead researcher for the multi-year study.

The latest phase of study looked at more than 1,300 tenth-graders who participated in 4-H programs and nearly 800 who didn't. The research was commissioned by the National 4-H Council and funded by corporations that sponsor the organization. The report also found that children involved for a longer time experienced more benefits, and that girls benefited more from 4-H participation than boys, though the reason was unclear. "We're not saying 4-H is the formula to get your kids into Tufts University," Lerner said, adding that parents, mentors and other youth development programs also play critical roles. "What we're saying is greater doses of 4-H give your kid an advantage."

The 4-H focus on science and technology lines up with the century-old organization's original mission of bringing scientific developments in farming to rural areas, said Don Floyd, National 4-H President. "This challenge we have as a country of not producing enough scientists is a big deal," Floyd said. He pointed out that the U.S. lags behind China and Japan and Germany, "where about 60 percent of their graduates are science majors, and we're doing about 30 percent," he said.

The 6 million 4-H members, about half of whom live in urban areas, study alternative energy, robotics, engineering and computer technology. Previously published findings of the Tufts study have shown that 4-H participants are nearly two times more likely to get better grades in school and nearly two times more likely to plan to go to college. They are also 41 percent less likely to engage in risky behaviors.

"Thank you" to all of our clubs, members and volunteers who helped 4-H participate in National Youth Science Day and related activities.

Club Activity IDEA



PBSKids FETCH 2010 Challenge Packs are now available! The 2010 Challenge Pack contains *new activities that explore sound, light, and energy* - and require inexpensive materials that won't break your budget! Use these challenges to create a *fun, engaging event for kids and families* or to provide *additional challenges for your 4-H club meeting*.

Activities are available at <http://pbskids.org/fetch/parentsteachers/activities/challengepack.html>.

(To obtain the 2010 activities, please email fetchnews@wgbh.org.

Be sure to include your name, organization/club name Telephone number and mailing information.)

BE A SLO SCIENTIST VOLUNTEER FACILITATOR!

Adults: Would you enjoy leading a group of youth and adults together in fun, hands-on science activities or are you the parent of a teen who would enjoy leading science-related activities together?

Teens: Do you have an interest in science and would enjoy serving as a 4-H junior leader with your parent (or other adult) in a SLO Scientist group?

4-H SLO Scientist Youth/Adult Science Clubs are looking for volunteers to help facilitate hands-on science activities for their enthusiastic members. Becoming a 4-H SLO Scientist Volunteer Facilitator is a great way to become involved with kids and parents in the community, and to start a SLO Scientist project within your club. Children, ages 8 to 11, come with a parent or other adult to form a science team; each SLO Scientist group consists of 7 to 10 science teams. SLO Scientist groups meet in various locations around the county, typically 2 evenings a month to explore topics such as earthquakes, soil and water, chemical reactions. You don't need to be an expert in the fields of soils, agriculture or geology since the program emphasizes giving children real experiences to help them learn how to observe, investigate and experiment and just having fun with science experiences! Materials are provided and training for volunteer facilitators is offered on a continual basis. **For more information about this terrific program and how you can become involved, please contact Heather Dauer, San Luis Obispo County 4-H SLO Scientist Coordinator, at 781-5944 or e-mail dnhdauer@charter.net**

CLUB NEWS

On September 26th, 2009, members of **Templeton 4-H** helped pick up trash at the Templeton Community Clean-up. We had our gloves, hats, and sunscreen at the ready as we headed down North Main Street. Afterwards, we were served a delicious barbecue at the Templeton Fire Department. Members present at the clean-up were: Kaydon Mazzo, Claire, Elias, and Gabriel Gannage, Ole and Daniika Viborg, Justin, Nolan, and Jade Sigmund, Molly Schaner, Jasen Friedle, and Emily Kollman. Parents present were: Mikhail and Kenna Gannage, Romayne Rose, Loretta Mazzo, and Steve Sigmund. We had a lot of fun helping to clean up Templeton! Submitted by: Jasen Friedle

Morro Bay 4H has been busy with community service projects and getting the word out about 4H. In August members were invited to Dahlia Daze flower show to pass out information about 4H. On September 13th members picked up trash on the beach in Morro Bay for National Clean Shores this is a service project that we have participated in for many years. In October we volunteered at the Morro Bay Harbor Festival by picking up litter and keeping the festival clean. During National 4H week Oct 8, 9 and 10th we had a information table and animals on display outside of the Cookie Crock Market in Morro Bay. Members talked with customers about what 4H is and does. We heard lots of stories about 4H from customers and how much they enjoyed it as youth. Congratulations to all County Achievement Night award recipients. Morro Bay 4H Club earned a Gold Seal. Go Officers! Congratulations to the county record book winners, Eric Hendrickson (entomology), Brooke Borchard (teen leadership), Devon Kramer (rabbits), Riley Haas (sewing). Presidential Community Service Award winners, Anne Limon, Catherine Baynham, Carla Borchard, Brett Mobley, Thomas Warren, Brooke Borchard and the Haas Family. County Community Recognition Award the Mobley Family.



Amanda, Bella, Dustin, Emme, Adrienne & Dori
National 4H Week @ Cookie Crock Market Morro Bay

On behalf of my daughter, Kellie K Wolfe of **Cambria 4-H Club**. I am submitting photos of her at the San Luis Obispo 4 H Field Day 2009, and information on her Honor's from the at Mid State Fair in Paso Robles CA. Kellie entered three items in "Field Day", a beaded necklace, a Horse Shoe Welded Flower and her bird house, she received "First Place" blue ribbons on all three of her entrees. However, she received the " Division Winner Ribbon, and "The Best of Show" plaque for her entree on her " Ocean Themed Bird House". The items used for her bird house on the outside were 100% recycled items from off one of our beautiful beaches here in Cambria CA. She did a great job, and she planned and worked very hard on it for a week.

I must say that all the children did very well, it was our first year and first time to attend a "Field Day" event. We then entered all three items to The Mid State Fair in Paso Robles CA. We she went on and received three more blue ribbons in first place.

The overall events were fun and exciting and we both had a lovely time. We look forward to attending this forum next year. Thank you for your time, Karen Wolfe and 4 H Member Kellie K Wolfe



On October 10th the **Estrella 4-H horse group and the Ranchita Canyon horse group** teamed up and did a mega cleaning/construction day at Heaven Can Wait Horse Shelter. We cleaned out the horse's stalls, groomed them, checked water buckets and one of the 'Estrella dads helped build a new stall! We worked for 4 hours non-stop! Our work was payed off because we got to see the horse chiropractor massaging one of the horses at the shelter. We love working at the rescue and hope to go back there soon.—Elena Riley



San Luis Obispo County 4-H — Saturday, October 3, 2009

A Night of Outstanding Achievement

Great Job!

California Awards County Winners

ARTS & CRAFTS

Corryn La Rue, Templeton

AVIAN SCIENCE

Tyler Fielding, Cerro Alto

BREEDING BEEF

Savannah Levisay, Cerro Alto

CAKE DECORATING

Riley Nilsen, Nipomo

CLOTHING & TEXTILES

Ashley Fielding, Cerro Alto

COMMUNITY SERVICE/PRIDE

April Rose, Templeton

DAIRY GOATS

Rebekah Lamouria, Cerro Alto

DOG CARE

Denise Carigo, Cerro Alto

ENTOMOLOGY

Eric Hendrickson, Morro Bay

FOODS & NUTRITION

Sara Fellbaum, Los Alegres

HORSE & PONY

Christine Allen, Edna

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP

Bella Martinez, Cerro Alto

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Olivia Andrade, Cerro Alto

LEATHERCRAFTS

Nicholas Lopez, Cerro Alto

MARKET BEEF

Calvin Levisay, Cerro Alto

MARKET GOATS

Brittney Tierney, Sierra Way

MARKET SHEEP

Nick Weir, Cerro Alto

MARKET SWINE

Cierra La Rue, Templeton

METALWORKING

Mason Silva, Nipomo

PETS & SMALL ANIMALS

Gabriella Melton, Cerro Alto

PHOTOGRAPHY

Jack Moore, El Camino

QUILTING

Janeen Moore, El Camino

RABBITS

Emily Kollman, Templeton

ROCKETRY

Danny Pierce, El Camino

SHOOTING SPORTS

Carson Cronkright, Cerro Alto

TEEN LEADERSHIP

Claire Edmonds, Cerro Alto

VET SCIENCE

David Paine, Huasna Valley



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

On the lookout for
VOLUNTEERS
(You?!!) 

We're on the lookout for a "few good volunteers" to organize our countywide **4-H Field Day** and **Chicken-Q** event next year!!

The "jobs" of **Event Chair** and **Operations Manager** are busy ones, but they come with many perks; like working alongside your fellow volunteers—and there are *MANY* who make the day such fun and a great success. (You'll also have lots of help and support from 4-H staff along the way too.)

Planning starts early, usually in January...so, how about it? Would you like to try your hand at organizing **4-H Field Day** and **Chicken-Q** in **2010**? If so, we'd love to talk with you or answer any questions you may have. Just call the 4-H office at 781-5943.

We hope to hear from *you* soon!!

ASSET DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
Igniting the Spark: Connecting to Hope
Thursday, January 28, 2010
Embassy Suites Hotel, SLO
8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
Youth: \$25 Adults: \$55

"Sparks light a fire in a person; when fueled by supportive peers and adults. These sparks enable young people to thrive."

This conference is designed for youth and adults involved in the education and development of youth in our communities. Participants will gain an understanding of the "Spark" concept; Learn to identify Sparks in themselves & others; Leave with practical ways to turn Sparks into action. Call the 4-H office at 781-5943 for a Registration Form. Attendees **MUST** pre-register by January 2, 2010 **NO** Registration at the door. Registration after December 15, 2009 is \$65 for Adults. For Questions call: Shannon White-Bond at (805) 782-7272.

Important Awards Information For Leaders and Members

As the Awards Director, have I got a challenge for you! Our Record Book Pin Supply has some wonderful pins – but no one ever submits a record book to County Record Book Judging in these project areas!

Did you know that just about anything you can think of can be a 4-H project? Each county has the option to offer any project they wish – and over the years the State has stopped listing certain projects. But here in San Luis Obispo County we think a little differently and I am sending out the challenge to members and leaders to see if you can offer some of the projects listed below. And who knows – you may earn one of the wonderful Record Book medals we have. I would like nothing better than to see you wearing one of these medals on your hat!

So here goes – look this list over – talk to your Club Leader and see if you can find a project leader willing to take on any of these projects. My goal is to see the medal supply depleted and 4-H'ers with these earned pins on their hats!

Achievement, Aerospace, Agricultural, Automotive, Beekeeping, Bicycle, Bread, Citizenship, Communication, Community Service, Conservation, Consumer Education, Dairy Foods, Drama, Electricity, Electric Energy, Entomology, Field Crops & Science, Fitness Leadership, Forestry, Gardening & Horticultural, Health, Home Management, Plant & Soil Science, Public Speaking, Safety, Seed Award, Wildlife & Fisheries, Veterinary Science.

San Luis Obispo County also offers:
Junior Leadership, Teen Leadership, Scrapbooking, Quilting

As always – if any of you have any questions please call me at 528-8232.

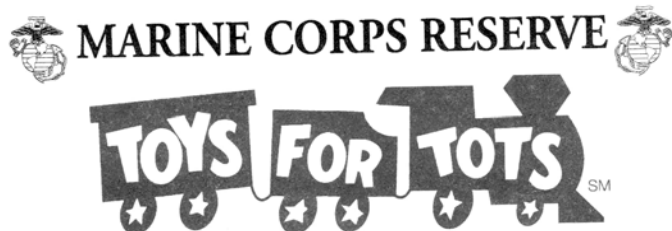
JoAnn Overbey, Awards Director

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

New Draft Horse Project Now accepting members county wide!

Ralph Covell of *Covell's California Clydesdales* is offering a *new* draft horse project in Cambria 4-H and has decided to invite members from across the county to participate. The project will focus exclusively on draft horses, and will cover not only the care, but also the conformation of a quality draft horse. Project members will learn hands-on the specialized techniques used to groom and prepare a draft horse for exhibition, and how to show a draft horse in a halter class. Members will also learn how to harness a horse and safely hook them to a cart or wagon. The group may even get to do some basic driving.

Because draft horses are very **BIG** and **powerful**, members must have successfully completed their *Entry Level Test* or be approved by the project leader to join. As with all large animal projects, 4-Hers must be *at least nine* years of age to participate. Interested members should contact Ralph Covell at **927-3398**.



Toys for Tots volunteers deeply appreciate your participation in our toy collection in 2008! They were able to gather 6,200 toys in San Luis Obispo county which brought a joyful Christmas to nearly 3,100 local children who would otherwise have received few, if any, gifts. **There will be a Toys for Tots "barrel" set up at the 4-H office and ready to receive toy donations by mid-November.** The United States Marine Corps Reserve ask that toys be new and unwrapped when dropped off at the barrel.

Each year gets more and more exciting, as more and more toys are placed in the barrel. You should see how quickly the barrel fills up each week.

The last pick up of donations will be on Monday, December 14th, 2009.



KJUG to Promote 4-H Activities

Just a reminder...**KJUG Radio** has offered to help **promote** local 4-H events, **club membership drives** and **fundraising activities**. All you need to do is **email** an informational paragraph, with contact information and details, to kjug@jugcountry.com Please allow two weeks notice, if possible.

This is a great opportunity--let's take advantage of it!

4-H Club Treasurer's Training



On Saturday, **November 7, 2009**, Victoria Weatherly-Nilsen, 4-H Management Board Treasurer will host a second Treasurer Training session from **9:00-11:00am** at the **UCCE Auditorium** located at 2156 Sierra Way. The training is mandatory for new club Treasurers and Treasurer Advisors (the adult mentor who will be working with the Club Treasurer) and new Community Club Leaders are also encouraged to attend.

Please RSVP to the 4-H office at 781-5943. However, if you forget to RSVP *please come anyway!!* If you have any questions, please call the 4-H office or Victoria Weatherly-Nilsen at 929-6258.

2009-2010 ALL STARS

Left to Right: Emily, Anthony and Alexis



2010 Western Regional 4-H Leaders' Forum (WRLF) *Scholarships Available!*



The SLO Co. 4-H Adult Leadership Committee is seeking nominations of outstanding adult volunteers to receive scholarships to attend the 2010 Western Regional 4-H Leaders' Forum. This year's forum, "Blazing Trails" is being held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico on **March 11-14, 2010**. The Forum brings together over 500 volunteers from the 13 western states to share ideas, learn new skills, and have *FUN!*

This year, several scholarships are available in the amount of **\$500**, which will cover the conference fee and six meals (\$200), *plus* offset travel and hotel expenses! Scholarship recipients must be willing to pay for any travel or conference related expenses in excess of the \$500 scholarship.

Nomination Criteria:

- 1) has been a leader for at least two years and has re-enrolled for the new program year;
- 2) evidence of outstanding teaching/leadership skills;
- 3) willing to pay any conference, lodging, or travel expenses in excess of \$500;
- 4) has not received a scholarship to attend the Western Regional 4-H Leaders' Forum in the past three years.

Clubs, adult volunteers, and 4-H members may all nominate leaders for scholarship consideration. **Leaders may even elect to nominate themselves.** If you are nominating someone, please check with them to make sure they will be able to attend. Nomination forms are available through your Community Club Leader, in the 4-H office (781-5943), and online at slocounty4h.org under the subheading "Applications". Nominations are **due November 15th** in the 4-H Office. If you have any questions, please call Evelyn Rockwell at 466-4383. To learn more about the conference, visit <http://aces.nmsu.edu/4h/wrlf2010/>

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM in SLO COUNTY by Carol Singleton, Estrella 4-H

A package just arrived this afternoon. When I saw the return address, I yelled out "A package from Japan...Rina sent us something!" My two girls – Daniela, age 14, and Rosie, age 11 – ran to see what our new friend had sent. It was our first contact from her since we said our goodbyes on August 18.....but I'm at the end of the story. Let me start at the beginning.

Last March's SLO 4-H News & Views had an article: "Looking for an amazing 4-H opportunity? Then consider the **California 4-H International Exchange.**" Hmm, I thought, that sounds like fun. My girls thought it sounded like fun too. We were accepted as a host family by the State 4-H office and our summer four-week adventure turned out to be a life-altering experience.

In July, we drove up to UC Davis to attend a ceremony where we were one of the 18 California families selected for the program. Our Japanese student was Rina Matsubara, a 13 year old girl from Fu-kuoka, Japan. We drove home that evening. The next morning after a big break-

fast, Rina presented each of us a plethora of wonderful gifts. Gift giving is part of the Japanese culture. Rina had prepared a lovely "life book" – a photo album of Rina, her friends, her family and her town and we spent the day looking at the pictures of her life in Japan and getting acquainted.

Rina had only been taking English since April, so her English language ability was limited. We had to get creative to understand one another and that was part of the fun. Daniela relied mostly on hand signals and pantomime to communicate with Rina. Rosie shared activities with her that required no English or Japanese such as playing Uno and other games. I communicated with her via the wonderful phrase/sentence book that the State 4-H office had provided, plus a Japanese/English dictionary. When we needed extra help, Rina and I both used Google translate on the computer. All of us enjoyed watching DVD's with Japanese soundtracks and English subtitles such as Spirited Away and Howl's Moving Castle.

We were asked to treat Rina as a member of our family, so she participated in all our daily activities. Daniela and Rosie taught Rina how to do the chores they do.

As part of our family, Rina and Daniela attended some birthday parties, swim at our pool, listened to music, shopped and hung out with friends. Daniela taught Rina how to make chocolate chip cookies. Rina taught us how to make udon (noodles) and danko (sweet dumplings). We took advantage of living in SLO County and in CA by showing her many of our sites and activities. On August 18 we drove home via UC Davis, where we said our goodbyes. She and the other students flew home the next day.

Now, we are preparing a package of small gifts and letters to send to Rina. We have made a lifelong friend and hope to visit her and her family in Japan in the next few years. Daniela is looking into becoming an exchange student herself possibly in summer 2010.

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MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

2010 Teen Involvement Conference (TIC)
January 15-17, 2010 Pathfinder Ranch, Mountain Center, CA
Ages 13-19 as of 1/15/10

The **2010 Teen Involvement Conference**, also known as TIC, is a three day event where youth from Southern California meet to learn about the 4-H program, leadership, citizenship, life skills, and so much more. 4-H members who attend this conference will have an opportunity to interact with other youth and adults from nine counties in the south section.

The cost is \$100 per person when you register by December 11, 2009. Registrations will be accepted through January 14, 2010 at a higher rate. For more information, go to <http://ss4h.org/teen>

2010 California Citizenship Focus **June 25-29, 2010**

California Focus is a unique 4-H Citizenship educational experience that combines hands-on participation in workshops, debates, and simulations with outstanding speakers and visits to historical, cultural, and governmental sites. California's capital city, Sacramento, becomes a "living classroom" for this five-day, action packed adventure. It also includes plenty of time for fun and making new friends through organized recreational activities, a dance, and a dip in the pool.

As a citizen of "*Sierra Cascade*" you will register to vote, conduct a political campaign, elect constitutional offices, analyze the needs and issues of your district, and enact legislation with the goal of securing the governor's signature to make your bill a law. Legislative appointments at the Capitol will allow delegates to meet face-to-face with their senators and assembly person to discuss current issues, learn how proposals are funded, and advocate for issues critical to them and their fellow constituents. Delegates also prepare and present a "Plan of Action" to implement back home in their respective communities.

Enrollment is open to all 4-H members that have completed the 8th grade and certified adult leaders 25 years of age or older. The registration fee is **\$475** for youth and **\$575** for adults. The registration fee includes:

- 5 days/4 nights lodging at the hotel with most meals included
- Program tuition and educational resource packet
- Admission and transportation for field tours
- Mandatory pre-travel orientation program

Registration forms and additional information are available at www.ca4h.org/citizenship/focus/ and in the 4-H office. Completed registrations along with a \$150 deposit are due in the county 4-H office no later than **January 8th** with the remaining balance due by March 15th. Please make all checks payable to "SLO Co. 4-H YDP". If you have any questions, please call Julie Maggiore, 4-H Program Admin. Assistant, at 781-5941.

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The State 4-H office coordinates an "In-Bound" program (students visiting California) for odd-numbered year such as 2009. **4-H members can participate in the "Out-Bound" program in even-numbered years such as 2010.** Information on both programs is available at: <http://www.ca4h.org/exchange/> or by contacting Pat English at 530-754-8520 or pnenglish@ucdavis.edu.



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SLO County 4-H YDP Newsletters are assembled each month by the Silver Streaks of the San Luis Obispo Senior Center.

SLO County 4-H Youth Development Program Calendar 2009-2010

NOVEMBER 2009

- 7 Treasurer's Training Workshop, 9am-11am UC Auditorium SLO
- 6-8 State 4-H Leader's Forum Asilomar
- 14 4-H HORSE PLAY DAY, 9 am—1 pm
Wranglerette Arena, Atascadero
- 15 WRLF Nominations Due
- 18 4-H Management Board Mtg, UC Auditorium, SLO 5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 2009

- 11 TIC Registrations Due
- 14 Last day to donate Toys at the 4-H office for TOYS FOR TOTS Program

JANUARY 2010

- 8 California Focus Deposit Deadline
- 15-17 TIC Conference, Mountain Center, CA
- 28 Asset Development Conference, 8am-4pm
Embassy Suites, San Luis Obispo

MARCH 2010

- 11-14 WRLF, Albuquerque, NM

APRIL 2010

- 24 Food & Arts Celebration & Fashion Revue
Laguna Middle School, SLO
- 4/30-5/2 Youth Camp, Rancho El Chorro, SLO

JUNE 2010

- 12 4-H Field Day and Chicken-Q
Paso Robles Event Center
- 25-29 California Citizenship Focus,
Sacramento, CA