

4-H CLUBS

- 4 Paws
- Animal Crackers
- B & S Farms
- Blazers
- 4-H Caterpillars
- Clogging Clovers
- Crafty Scientists
- Eagles
- Florida Crackers
- Foxmill Kids & Colts
- GEO Gang
- Hammerheads 4-H Club
- Heart and Horses
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- Indian Creek 4-H Club
- Jr. Cattlemen 4-H Club
- Kelly Community Clovers
- Livestock Club
- Miakka Allstock
- Mini Hooves of Sarasota
- Myakka Ranchers
- Ridin' Rednecks
- Sarasota Cows & Company
- Sarasota Sharp Shooters
- Southern Spurs
- The Bridge
- The Whalers



The Clover Times

February 2014



FROM THE AGENTS DESK— Keith Wilson

Our staff has learned of the many outstanding 4-H community service projects that have been completed by 4-H club members throughout Sarasota County. There have been projects that have served the homeless, residents of retirement centers, community beautification efforts, animal rescue work and much more. We encourage all of the clubs that have participated in community service projects to send the 4-H staff a brief summary of your efforts so that they may be shared with the community. Your compassion matters to others!

We have lost a tremendous person from our 4-H staff who has devoted herself to 4-H throughout the State of Florida for well over 38 years. Her passion for serving youth will forever leave a positive mark on all those who have had the privilege to know her. We wish Marcia Morris complete happiness in her retirement and will be always grateful for what she has shared with us.

4-H staff have initiated a donation drive of second hand items, barely blemished (adult clothes only), to give to the local Treasure Chest Thrift Shop which benefits the SPARRC Program. SPARRC provides support to women who have been the victims of physical abuse. The thrift shop is located at 1426 Fruitville Road in Sarasota, located very close to Selby Library. Contact Mr. Wilson at kwilson@scgov.net if you wish further information.

Texting and driving is an accident waiting to happen. Control the urge!

Keith Wilson, 4-H Agent

The 4-H Pledge

I pledge,
My Head
to clearer thinking,
My Heart
to greater loyalty,
My Hands
to larger service,
and My Health
to better living,
for my club,
my community,
my country,
and my world.

Make Your Plans NOW...



February 2014

- 1 7th Annual Sporting Clay Event
- 6-17 Florida State Fair
- 7 Small Animal Entry Forms Due
- 8 **COUNTY EVENTS**
- 10 4-H Foundation Meeting
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 17 Presidents Day—4-H Office closed
- 20 Reporters—don't forget your club news
- 21 Intermediate LAW
- 24 **Council & Leader Meeting** ←
- 28 3rd Executive Board

March 2014

- 8 Work Day at the Fair
- 9 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 10 Spring Break
- 12 Fair check-ins begin
- 14 -23 **SARASOTA COUNTY FAIR!**

Looking ahead:

April 2014

- 22 Fair Awards Night
- 23 4-H Day at the Capitol

Fair Days Ahead: Sarasota County Fair, March 14—23, 2014

You Need To Know... All exhibitors are required to work a shift(s) in ALL buildings / barns that they are exhibiting in. Parents will be responsible for providing adult supervision during these shifts. Please review your 2014 Sarasota County Fair Rule Book for complete guidelines.

Large Animal Barn shifts: beginning Saturday, February 22 through Tuesday, March 4 call Christina Schook at 915-2366 to schedule your large animal barn work shift. ALL exhibitors showing a large animal are required to work a shift. If you do not call by March 4 a work shift will be assigned to you.

Locker Assignments: Locker assignments will be given out by club. Christina Schook will be contacting club leaders with this information.

Mini Building Sign-up: If you have a project in the Mini Building you must sign up for a work shift. Two youth and one adult are needed for each shift. Please contact the 4-H Office at 861-9810 to schedule your shift beginning Wednesday, February 5.

Small Animal Tent: Rabbit, Poultry and Cavy Barn: Please contact Janie at her e-mail: jbesselm@scgov.net after February 10th or call 861-9874 on Monday, afternoon or Thursday only; 907-0011 on other days of the work week. Please leave a message.

Plant tent: your work shift will be on Saturday, March 22 during the Plant Show and Sale auction... you will be responsible for watering and caring for your plants during the fair.

Dog exhibitors will be receiving your work duties from your division coordinator.

Miniature Horse and Llama Exhibitors are required to work on Volunteer Work Day Saturday, March 8; at 8:00 AM.

Elephant Ear Booth: Sign up now!

Leaders: now is the time to volunteer your club for a shift in the Elephant Ear Booth! To sign-up call the 4-H Office at 861-9810, or sign-up at the next leaders meeting. The Foundation asks again this year, that you volunteer and donate your time as "community-service".

All shifts will include 3 to 4 youth (12 or older) and 1 to 2 adult supervisors (parents / leaders / volunteers).

Shifts are Monday through Thursday: first shift 4:45—7:45 PM, second shift 7:15 to 10:15 PM. Fridays: first shift 1:45—7:00 second shift 6:45—11:00, Saturdays: first shift 11:45—4:00 PM, second shift 3:45—8:00, and third shift 7:45—11:00 and Sundays: first shift 11:45—4:00 PM, second shift 3:45—7:00, and third shift 6:45—10:00.

The Elephant Ear Booth is a great fundraiser for our Sarasota County 4-H Foundation. Don't delay, call today!



Last chance for a manicure before the fair?

On **Wednesday, February 19**, the Albritton's are having a **hoof trimming event** at their home located at: 9600 State Road 72, starting at 5:00 pm (east of the interstate on Clark Road). Bring your steer, beef breeding, and dairy cattle! Please call LeeAnn at 941-650-9012 if you plan to attend and details.

Thanks Albritton Family!

Small Animal Tent News - From Janie...

Hello, just a few reminders before the fair:

- February 7th**, final day to turn in you registration forms to the Fair Office **ONLY!** **Deadline is 5 pm.**
- Work Day for the Fair - March 8th 8:00 am to noon.** We really need volunteers to lead in setting up the rabbit, cavy and poultry cages. We also need parents who are willing to lend, not only their expertise, but bring cordless power tools, hammers, nails and screws. Any help would be appreciated! If you feel that you can help us out, please contact: Janie Besselman at jbesselm@scgov.net or / Robert Kluson at rkluson@scgov.net.
- Small Animal Tent Check-In: Wednesday, March 12th, 5:00-7:00 pm.** Please remember to bring your record books at this time.
- Cavy and Rabbit judging** (This is judging of the exhibitors animals by the rabbit judge) - **Thursday, March 13th 6:00 pm.** If you wish to be present at the judging, we would welcome the help...please remember that if you are present, you must be in proper attire i.e. 4-H in white shirt and black pants; FFA in full uniform with your jacket.
- Poultry judging** will be conducted on **Saturday, March 15th at 8:00 am** with **Poultry Showmanship** to follow right after the animals are judged. If you are entering this contest, you must be in proper attire i.e. 4-H in white shirts and black pants/skirt; FFA in full uniform with your jacket.
- Rabbit/Cavy Skill-a-thon Contest** will be held on **Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 pm at the PT Houser Show Arena****Note: this is where the 4-H or FFA student is tested on their knowledge of rabbit/cavies. If you have not picked up the Rabbit Skill-a-thon study guide, contact Janie Besselman for a copy of the guide at: jbesselm@scgov.net
- Exhibit Removal is scheduled for Sunday, March 23 at 8:00 am.** Please bring all your cages to remove your animals from the Small Animal Tent. We will need help from exhibitors and their families to take down and stack cages at this time.

Please note the NEW FAIR HOURS:

The fair will open Monday—Thursday at 5:00 pm—10:00 pm.
Fridays 2:00 pm—11:00 pm
Saturdays 12:00 pm—11:00 pm
Sundays 12:00 pm—10:00 pm



Volunteers Needed for Workday

This year **Volunteer Workday** is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 8:00 AM at the Sarasota County Fairgrounds. We need help setting up the barns, pens, small animal tent, decorating, and much, much more for the 2014 Sarasota County Fair. Register your club, group, or as an individual. We need about 75 volunteers who are ready to work! Please call Christina Schook at 915-2366 or the 4-H Office 861-9810.

Can YOU Help? We need sponsors for the barn shavings used in the animal pens. If you can help with shavings contact Danny Lewis at 356-3545. Thank-you for your support!

Attention Swine Exhibitors:

All swine must be bled and tested for pseudo rabies and brucellosis by a certified veterinarian no more than 30 days before the FINAL ENTRY to the fair to be eligible for the fair.

The Livestock Committee will help facilitate the process by having a veterinarian at the Farm Bureau; 7289 Palmer Blvd. on Monday, February 17, 2014 at 5:00—7:00 pm. There will be a charge of about—\$10.00 for the test. You must contact Don Strickland at 371-1771 for a scheduled time.

If you choose to have your veterinarian do the test, it is your responsibility to have the paper work at the fair office. Time must be allowed for results to be certified and received by Fair office. Failure to have the blood test will result in disqualification from the fair.

Let's Get Ready for the Show!

All Exhibitors must wear appropriate 4-H attire when showing or selling animals and /or plants.

4-H = Black or white pants, solid white shirt or blouse with collar. Dark, closed-toe foot ware. Optional: 4-H emblem on shirt, tie (4-H colors), 4-H jacket

Preferred: Black pants, solid white shirt or blouse with collar, 4-H jacket (zipped)

Dairy Exhibitors: Solid white shirt or blouse with collar, solid white pants

No hats, flip-flops, sandals, or tobacco products allowed.

Closed-toe shoes or boots are required to be worn in the Barn Complex at all times. THIS RULE APPLIES TO ALL SCHEDULED WORK SHIFTS ALSO.

Here's the Scoop on Fair Passes...



The 4-H Office will distribute Exhibitor Fair Passes and Photo ID's Monday, March 3 through Tuesday, March 11, at **Twin Lakes Park**. On Wednesday, March 12 we will have the passes at Mini-

Building check-in at the **Fairgrounds**. After that - we will return unclaimed passes to the Fair Office.

Youth exhibiting livestock will receive their "photo ID". Youth exhibiting Miniature Horses, Llama, Dog, Mini-Building, and Small Animal Barn will be receiving an "exhibitor pass".

All 4-H members, with projects entered in the fair, will be eligible to receive one exhibitor pass / or photo ID and two parent passes. Families with more than one member exhibiting projects in the fair will only receive two parent passes. The 4-H Office receives fair passes based on the number of exhibitors in the Fair. Sorry, we cannot accommodate requests for additional passes.

Important "PASS GATE" Information...

There has been a change in the "**Pass Gate 2**" for entrance/exit during Fair public hours at the Sarasota County Fair.

Gate 2 (which is the normal entry / exist pass gate between the fair office and the Ken Clark Building) will be closed during Fair public hours. It will be open prior to fair, as normal, for exhibitors, parents and leaders. Of course - you will still need your exhibitor pass or ID card to enter.

During Fair public hours: enter thru Gate 1 (by the Potter building), Gate 3 (by Robarts Arena) or Gate 4 (behind/east Robarts Arena).

Please make note of this important information so you are not late for work-shifts, shows, or contests.

Mini Building questions answered!

The 4-H office will distribute Mini Building Entry Tags with Fair passes Monday, March 3 through Tuesday, March 11, at **Twin Lakes Park**. The 4-H office hours: 7:30 am—5:00 pm.

Mini building check-in is Wednesday, March 12, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Please make sure your tags are filled out completely and attached securely to each item. This will eliminate delays at check-in. **Remember:** you must turn in your **completed recorded book** at check-in. Entries will not be accepted without your record book! Don't forget to sign-up for your work shift in the Mini-Building—call 861-9810.

Mandatory Removal of Mini-Building Entries:

All exhibitors are required to pick up your items on Sunday, March 23, 8:00 am. Items are not the responsibility of the 4-H office and will not be taken to the 4-H Office. After all items and decorations are removed, we will distribute Mini-Building premiums.

YOU Need To Know...



4-H County Events Day: **February 8** Showtime is just around the corner!

Are you ready? Sarasota County Demonstrations and Public Speaking Event is Saturday, **February 8, 2014** and will be held at the "**Bayside Community Church**": 8893 Fruitville Road (3 miles east of I-75). All those who turned in entry forms will receive a letter of confirmation and a scheduled time for your activity. Please check your confirmation carefully to make sure all the information is correct.

What happens after County Events? Each county may register all blue qualifying junior, intermediate, and senior individuals and all blue qualifying junior, intermediate, and senior teams for District Events. Counties also reserve the option of working with red placing entries, to improve the entry to a blue level, and qualify the entry for District Events. You can only enter 1 demonstration / or 1 public speech.

This year Pinellas County will host District Events on May 3, 2014. Juniors and Intermediates receiving "First—Blue" in their category at District Events will receive a full scholarship to Camp Cloverleaf (June 23—27). All District blue qualifying senior individuals and all blue qualifying senior teams may advance to State Events. Participants must meet a blue standard at District Events to qualify for state. State Events will be held at 4-H University, in Gainesville, July 28—August 1, 2014.

If you have any questions please contact the 4-H Office at 861-9810 for details.

Day at the Capitol—Registration Opens March 9

4-H Day at the Capitol is an educational event that provides hands-on "learn by doing" experiences for youth. 4-H youth will learn about the legislative and government processes and systems as they participate in workshops, tours and observation of our government at work. This will provide youth the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills to become more informed citizens.

4-H youth from across the state will also have the chance to come together and share the positive impacts of the Florida 4-H Program. Participants will have the opportunity to meet and hear from their State Senators.

Save the date: April 23, 2014 Tallahassee, FL

Dates to Remember:

Camp Cloverleaf: June 23—27, Lake Placid

Legislature: June 23—27, Tallahassee

4-H University: July 28—August 1, Gainesville

We will have more information on these events and camps in our upcoming newsletters. Stay tuned!

Mark Your Calendar: **Saturday, February 15**

Small Animal Clinic

Small animal exhibitors: this is your opportunity to learn more about your project areas. Two workshops are planned on **Saturday, February 15**, at Twin Lakes Park:

A Rabbit / Cavy workshop will be held from 10:00 AM—noon and the Poultry Clinic will be held 1:00—3:00 PM.

Do you know how to groom a chicken? Have you practiced showmanship? Do you have questions about your record books? Have you heard about the 'Best All Around' belt buckle awards for poultry and rabbits at the fair?

These hands-on workshops will help you achieve your goals.

SC 4-H Foundation Scholarships Available...

Each year the **Sarasota County 4-H Foundation** awards scholarships, in varied amounts, to Sarasota County 4-H High School Seniors. Applicants must be a current 4-H member with a minimum of 3 years in 4-H, and have completed a 4-H record book for each of the 3 years. Applications are available at the 4-H office. Applications must be complete and submitted to the 4-H Office by Wednesday, April 2. Call 861-9810 for additional information.

Horse Show High Point Results

Sarasota County 4-H held an Open Horse Show on January 26 at Triple J Ranch. 4-H youth participated in Showmanship, Halter, Western, English, Miniature In-Hand, Driving and Trail / Obstacle events.

High Points Awards:

Jr. Western: Jennifer Blackburn and A Pinet of Scotch

Sr. Western: Lindsay Cosby and I E Mania

Jr. English: Ashley Miller and Last Details Jack

Sr. English: Lindsay Cosby and I E Mania

4-H: Lindsay Cosby and I E Mania

Miniature Horse: Riley Price and Silver Meadows Jets A Fire

Open: Lindsay Cosby and I E Mania

Congratulations to everyone!

Our thanks to the show judge Samantha Clark Johnson, trail judge Danielle Brantley, mini obstacle judge Deborah Conaway. Thank-you: Gay and Ron Hess for getting the kids and horses checked-in. Our ring-steward Jennifer Zappulla - fantastic job! Our announcer - Danielle Gill. And Kaila Hess - for all your assistance. A big thanks to Judy Middleton and crew who helped with the gates and ribbons. We would like to recognize all our volunteers who helped before and behind the scenes to make this day a great success for our 4-H



Sarasota County 4-H Foundation News

Sarasota County 4-H Foundation Swine Fundraiser!

It is time once again for the Sarasota County 4-H Foundation Annual Swine Raffle Fundraiser. Tickets will be available in bundles of 25/50/100 at leader and council meetings, and the 4-H Office. This is a great fundraiser for all clubs as well as the 4-H Foundation. Once again clubs will earn .25 cents for each ticket they sell (if they sell 25 tickets or more). A 4-H Foundation member will be happy to come to your 4-H club, explain the fundraiser to you and your members, and help you check out tickets. The club that sells the most tickets will **win a pizza party!**

Profits from these tickets support youth in our Sarasota County 4-H Program. Tickets are \$2.00 each. The winning ticket will be drawn on Saturday March 22, 2014 at 6:00 PM, at the 4-H Foundation Elephant Ear Booth. The hog will be one exhibited at the Sarasota County Fair and will be standard cut and wrapped.

The Sarasota County 4-H Foundation Sporting Clay Event

Save the date: **FEBRUARY 1st** for the 7th Annual Sporting Clay Event! Whether you're an experienced shooter or a beginner interested in learning a new sport, you'll find a day of great fun and excitement.

Located at beautiful Knights Trail Park, this course is designed to challenge the master and make a believer of the novice. Whether it's a pair of targets launched into the pine trees to simulate a rising covey of quail, targets flying above to simulate incoming ducks, or a target zooming across the ground to simulate a rabbit, each station is designed for fun. 12 stations, 100 clay bird shoot; something for Teams, Individuals, 4-H Youth, and Youth.

A BIG THANK-YOU To ALL Our Walkers!

Lorren	McCutcheon	Animal Crackers	77.00	Delanie	Bartell	Jr. Cattlemen	50.00
Kelsey	Morrison	Animal Crackers	52.00	Katelyn	Sanders	Jr. Cattlemen	40.00
Maribel	McCool	Animal Crackers	48.00	Valerie	Bixler	Jr. Cattlemen	40.00
			177.00	Ryleigh	Kelley	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Shannon	Kehoe	Blazers	150.00	Jacob	Bothast	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Tatum	Basista	Blazers	71.00	Marena	Bartell	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Ariel	Gustafson	Blazers	70.00	Andrew	Bothast	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Rebecca	George	Blazers	40.00	Raquel	Bothast	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Kelsee	Desmarais	Blazers	40.00	Mark	Bothast	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Austin	Gustafson	Blazers	26.00	Kristen	Sanders	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Kathy	Gustafson	Blazers	20.00	Nicole	Bartell	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
			417.00	Karen	Huddleson	Jr. Cattlemen	20.00
Keara	O' Mahony	Clogging Clovers	65.00				310.00
Ian	Jones	Clogging Clovers	20.00	Stephanie	Atyeo	Kelly Community	32.35
Adison	Sherrard	Clogging Clovers	20.00	Chris	Atyeo	Kelly Community	31.35
Kaylin	Sherrard	Clogging Clovers	20.00				63.70
Hailey	Jones	Clogging Clovers	20.00	Jillian	Bland	Miakka Allstock	110.00
Janice	Jones	Clogging Clovers	20.00	Devon	Kirkley	Miakka Allstock	45.00
			165.00	Alexandra	Kirkley	Miakka Allstock	45.00
Riley	Price	Hearts & Horses	320.00				200.00
Mandy	Jones	Hearts & Horses	20.00	Shelby	Stasik	Mini Hooves	40.00
			340.00	Jaed	Jones	Mini Hooves	20.00
Samantha	Chianese	Horse N Around	25.00				60.00
Sabrina	Chianese	Horse N Around	25.00	Savannah	Ream	Ridin' Rednecks	87.00
			50.00	Brianna	Ream	Ridin' Rednecks	82.00
				Max	Steele	Ridin' Rednecks	80.00
Lucas	Wilson	Independent	20.00	Barbara	Briggs	Ridin' Rednecks	25.00
							274.00

It was a fun-day for 4-Hers, parents, leaders, foundation members and volunteers who participated in the **2014 4-H Walk-A-Thon.**

The weather was fabulous and the scenery was beautiful. The scavenger hunt was a lot of **FUN!**

We would like to recognize all the Sarasota County 4-H Foundation members for their continued support of our Sarasota County 4-H Program. Without their support 4-H youth would not receive financial assistance to attend summer camps, leadership trips, and 4-H events.

THANK-YOU!

Lead The Way...



Volunteer Orientation and Training

Florida 4-H has expanded their volunteer website at florida4h.org with more information, training, and resources 4-YOU. We would like all 4-H leaders to review this information.

Florida 4-H Online Volunteer Orientation

Why does 4-H require volunteers to participate in this orientation? Many seasoned volunteers may ask, "Why do I have to take this orientation?" We want to provide as much training as possible so Florida's youth have the best possible 4-H experience.

- ⇒ Volunteers deserve to be well prepared
- ⇒ We value you and the work that you do for 4-H
- ⇒ Our children and youth are worth our time in training
- ⇒ Trained volunteers are essential to a quality 4-H program
- ⇒ We want to lay a foundation for success in your 4-H work with young people

Please take a moment to review the 5 videos in the Volunteer Orientation section.

After complete, move on to the Volunteer Training:

Section 1: Introduction to 4-H

Section 2: Starting Your Own 4-H Club

Section 3: Enriching the Club Experience

Section 4: Understanding Youth and Their Needs

Section 5: Volunteers and 4-H Program Management

Let's Learn Together...

Online UF Youth Protection Training (# YCS800) is **required of all volunteers working with youth. YES, we all need to take the test!**

The training lasts about 20 minutes and includes a brief quiz that must be completed successfully. It is currently posted at Volunteer Resources found on the Florida 4-H website: florida4h.org

Once you have completed the quiz the 4-H office will receive notification from the state office.

New State Guidelines:

To meet all state guidelines; the 4-H Office will begin the process of Level 2 background screening and fingerprinting for all organizational leaders and youth camp counselors.

Stay tuned for more information and details...



February is Heart Health Month...

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of Americans.

We can reduce heart disease by promoting a healthy diet and lifestyle. For the first time the American Heart Association has defined what it means to have "ideal cardiovascular health" by identifying seven health and behavior factors that impact the quality of life. We know that even simple, small changes can make a big difference in living a better! Known as "**Life's Simple 7**," these steps can help add years to your life: 1. don't smoke 2. maintain a healthy weight 3. engage in regular physical activity 4. eat a healthy diet 5. manage blood pressure 6. take charge of cholesterol and 7. keep blood sugar, or glucose, at healthy levels. Make the change to a healthier YOU.

High Blood Pressure: Check It Out!

Myth. I feel fine. I don't have to worry about high blood pressure. More than 76 million U.S. adults have high blood pressure and many of them don't know it or don't experience typical symptoms. High blood pressure is serious. If uncontrolled, high blood pressure can lead to severe health problems. High blood pressure is also the No. 1 cause of stroke—get checked!

News From Out There...



Animal Crackers by: Tori Hamrick, Reporter

Animal Crackers had a great meeting on January 10th. We gained a new member. Two of our long term members brought snacks and games. Which ended up keeping us entertained probably longer than it should have, but our meeting continued nonetheless as we finished our paperwork for the fair and set dates for in club demonstrations. We are all super excited for fair and we hope to see you all there. I'm sure it will be awesome.

4-H Hearts & Horses by: Nicole Versovsky, Reporter

On our meeting, January 20, 2014, we talked about our Community Service, First-Aid Kit Sales, and our next farm day and meetings. For our First-Aid Kit Sale, we are selling Home and Auto First-Aid Kits. We also picked a nursing home we are going to go to. Club members, be sure to ask friends, family, and neighbors if they would like a First-Aid Kit! After our meeting, we ate chips and had Caprisun. Our next farm day will be on February 1. On March 1, we will either have community service or a farm day. At the end of our meeting, we went outside on the playground to play late at night. Overall, we had a very fun time. We hope on seeing everyone at our next meeting on March 10!

News From Out There...

Horse N' Around by: Samantha Chianese, Reporter

Greetings, fellow 4Hers! On December 14th, Horse N' Around had our annual holiday party, and it was a ton of fun! We decorated horseshoes using various holiday items; these horseshoes can be hung up on the wall and are a symbol of good luck. The fun didn't stop there, though - we also decorated candle holders with paint and ribbons. They're perfect for our beautiful beeswax candles! The Walk-A-Thon took place on January 14th at Myakka Park. It was a beautiful day - the weather was just perfect for walking. Congratulations to those who won the scavenger hunt and to those who collected the most money. Sabrina Chianese and Samantha Chianese are still collecting donations for the Racing Dog Rescue Project. Donations include blankets, chew toys, and bottles of Fabuloso. Even small donations are helpful, and you will be lending support to a worthy cause!

Clogging Clovers by: Hannah Nichol, Reporter

Hello 4H'ers, The Clogging Clover's had a great time at our Holiday Events in December. We had great weather for the Venice Holiday Parade where we danced at the staging area, and then proceeded with our own float in the parade. We always enjoy walking/dancing the route and interacting with the crowd as we go. We received our second award this year from the Parade Council. Congratulations to all the cloggers who participated, and a big 'Thank You' to all the adults who helped to make it happen. We all had a great time at the club Christmas party, where we exchanged gifts, ate great food, and, of course, danced a lot.

Now we are getting ready for the Southwest Florida Heritage Festival at Crowley Nature Center and Museum in February, then the fair in March. Our instructors are challenging each group with new and more difficult dances than we have done before, and we are working hard to learn them. The Heritage Festival is a fun and interesting event, and we encourage everyone to come on out.

Ridin' Rednecks by: Hayes Bush, Reporter

This month Ridin Rednecks have had two guest speakers. Keith Wilson came to talk to us about Marine Biology and brought in specimen of different fish. A representative from Aeropostle jeans spoke to us about Jeans for Teens, a community service project Easton Underdahl is participating in. Max steel gave us a presentation on the different breeds of pigs. Delaney Cleveland also gave a presentation on goats. Vannucci gave a presentation on using vocal chords correctly. Shane Gaines, Ashley Maus and Gunnar Maus gave us a presentation on how to be ready for the fair. Our club participated in the 4-H foundations walk-a-thon. It was a good time. Our club held a screening to see everyone's animals. This was a great opportunity for everyone to weigh and compare each other's projects. Ridin Rednecks will once again hold a concession at Triple J Ranch on January 26th to benefit the club.

Southern Spurs by Katie Werla, Reporter

We had a wonderful start to our 4-H year and look forward to what 2014 brings! In December the Southern Spurs donated 50% of their wreath profits to the giving tree in Venice. We spent a wonderful evening shopping, wrapping and delivering gifts. We were fortunate to have a wonderful dinner together at Applebee's after our hard work. Our Christmas party this year was at Kroaky's in Sarasota where we were able to show case our singing talents. A great time was had by all. We are very thankful to be so blessed and very happy that we can give back to the community.

January continues to be a busy month for us. We began making our fleece lap throws for the residents at Gulf Winds Nursing Home in Venice and we are looking forward to distributing them to the residents. Many of our members will compete in the county horse show in January. We are excited to have everyone in the ring together and look forward to meeting new friends and creating new relationships!

Jr. Cattlemen by: Delanie Bartell

President Valerie Bixler called the meeting to order. We discussed upcoming events including the walk-a-thon for the 4-H foundation and the second vaccination for beef breeding animals. We also went over mini- building and rabbit and poultry entry forms and due dates. We had many of our club members attend the walk-a-thon and had a great day. Katelyn Sanders did her demonstration on how to feed a bottle calf. We had some great questions from our members. On January 26 our club is going on a field trip to learn how to work with cattle. We will be learning how to pen cattle, vaccinate, brand and check if an animal is bred by palpation and ultrasound. Dr Copeland will be helping us with the event. It is going to be a busy couple of months before the fair. We wish everyone well.

Blazers by: Kayla Bowser, Reporter

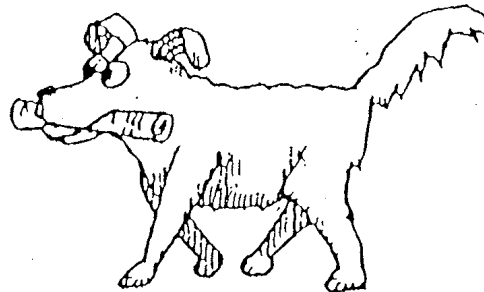
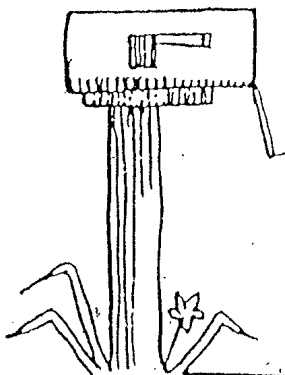
On Tuesday January 14th our meeting was called to order by our president Rebecca George at 7:00p.m. Everyone introduced themselves and told a little about their project. We talked about fair and how everyone is on their projects. We talked about our club t-shirts and if you need a shirt embroidered for show. If you do please bring a shirt and 15 dollars to the next meeting. We talked about how bleeding your pig was a mandatory for fair. We also talked about dates that have pasted and dates that are coming up. Our next meeting will be February 11th! Hope to see everyone there we are looking forward to the next few weeks as we prepare for the upcoming Sarasota county fair!

Sarasota County 4-H
6700 Clark Road
Sarasota, FL 34241

Current Resident or

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